

[1] 18th March 2020 – 14th May 2020. The date we as a family started our isolation and up to the date I have submitted work for this document.

7. Colombian Art ‘under’ Covid-19

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Pandemics are common themes in the history of art and literature. The current situation differs, because we can communicate more easily than in the past with the outside world. Due to the unexpectedness of the situation, artists are working on the go, imagining strategies to develop their creative processes. Some have adjusted their habitual methods to the new realities. Others are traversing unknown terrain.

Our goal here is to showcase and learn from responses by Colombian artists to the prevailing biopolitical conjuncture. They range across phenomenological uses of the body, audio and visual collages, diary entries, drawings, and invitations to collaborate.

A Diary of Experimental Creative Collaboration During Isolation

The Colombian dancers [Carolina Caballero and Ana Milena Navarro Busaid](#) devised a creative methodology to continue dancing in domestic space. What began as a challenge became a systematic exercise, encouraging new dances, advancing reflections on the relationship between people, spaces, and objects, improvising with what is at hand in a house, and reinventing relationships with the public.

The method involves two dancers confined in one house who carry out a daily exercise of experimental creativity. Each day, furniture is removed from the chosen room. The collaboration begins with the choice of a reference for the creation to come: a fragment of a recognized dance piece, one or two objects, a place in the house, or a dance genre. After taking those decisions, a collaborative exercise begins. Movements in common are chosen as starting points for improvisation. After rehearsal and practice, decisions are made about costumes, lighting, and the arrangement of recording devices. A collaborative video editing exercise is recorded and developed. The [video is circulated daily](#) on social networks. Comments in response provide ideas for future creations.

Log Book of Quarantine Drawings

Lucas Ospina has developed a diary of the pandemic. [Every day](#) he draws a picture of the quarantine experience that interacts with news coverage, fragments from books and essays, film dialog, song lyrics, and Wikipedia definitions, *inter alia*. The home of Ospina’s work, [CoronaBlog](#), is produced by journalists, writers, artists, and bloggers, with a view to chronicling the pandemic day by day—the experience of isolation seen through distinctive first-person visions.

Collaborative Virtual Drawing

Aníbal Maldonado proposes this methodology as a means of forging collective creative experiences, even in isolation: his [virtual whiteboard](#) invites artists to draw collectively, thereby bringing authorship into question. The process begins with the invitation, instructions, and a link to the board. Suggestions to “scratch, cross out, scribble, play”

value everything from elaborate drawings to spontaneous ones. Sometimes appointments are made to draw simultaneously in a group, but the space is permanently open for guests to draw. Participants must be willing to have their work transformed by others not erase such interventions, or at least to think twice before doing so. The methodology seeks to promote dialogue, via an opportunity to assume the responsibility of building collectively. The history of the project is available on [Instagram](#).

Collaborative Blog on the Pandemic

This is a [developing blog](#) about Covid-19. The method is to invite a different person each day to produce an entry about their reflections, proposals, ideas, or work, stimulated by the pandemic, and written in the first person. Invitees hail from various areas and disciplines. They include artists, writers, journalists, and bloggers, *inter alios*.

Interactive Journey via Whatsapp

[Radio Bestial](#) is a collective of artists created by Laura Wiesner and Sandra Martínez five years ago. They investigate the possibilities of radio for transmedia art, focusing on experiences for and with the public. In the current conjuncture, they have reactivated the interactive proposal Jurassic Parkway, a journey to the Mesozoic era of dinosaurs. The artists invite the public to join a WhatsApp group, which becomes a vessel for time travel. Groups of up to ten people at any one time are guided in this imaginary transfer through time and space via texts, sounds, images, and multimedia. The tour seeks to promote active listening. Spectators are urged to move around in their homes, and sometimes to respond by sending an image of what they are experiencing during the trip. Radio Bestial emphasizes the possibilities of sound and listening. The artists are interested in how the voice can shorten distances and stimulate the senses, allowing us to travel even while we are confined.

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