

Arts funding protected in state budget

The Union, 6/30/2020: “Nonprofit arts organizations employing hundreds of thousands of artists in community engagement programs across the state can breathe a sigh of relief for the moment as Gov. Gavin Newsom signs the 2020-21 budget with funding for the California Arts Council, keeping the state arts agency intact.”

Bumbershoot canceled amid COVID-19 concerns, eyes 2021 return

Seattle Times, 6/30/2020: “In a move that seemed merely a formality at this point, Bumbershoot organizers announced Tuesday that the long-running festival will not take place this year, due to COVID-19 concerns. The decision was made after the city of Seattle Special Events Committee voted to not issue any special events permits through Sept. 7, organizer One Reel said in a news release. The annual Labor Day weekend music and arts bash plans to return in 2021 for what would be its 50th anniversary.”

‘The Nutcracker’ is the coronavirus’s latest casualty. Here’s what the loss means for some ballet companies. Cirque du Soleil targets ‘beginning of 2021’ for shows to return from virus closures, CEO says

CNBC, 6/30/2020: “Cirque du Soleil CEO Daniel Lamarre told CNBC on Tuesday that the circus company is eyeing ‘the beginning of 2021’ for the return of its shows, following a coronavirus-driven suspension. “The good news is all of our cast and crew in Las Vegas lives there, so that’s why we’re hopeful that we can open Vegas first because the artists are ready to go, so within a couple of weeks of training and rehearsal, a show can be back on track,” Lamarre said on ‘Squawk on the Street.’ Lamarre, whose comments came one day after Cirque du Soleil filed for bankruptcy protection, said the return of the company’s shows in Orlando will also benefit from a locally based cast and crew.

Columbus Museum of Art reopens with special hours, extended special exhibit

NBC4i, 6/30/2020: “The Columbus Museum of Art has reopened its doors to the general public and is encouraging everyone to come in for a mental health break. ‘It’s really lovely to spend time with artworks. I feel like it’s a very healing experience and we could all use a bit of healing right now,’ said Tyler Cann, the museum’s head of exhibitions and Pizzuti Family Curator of Contemporary Art. ‘It is wonderful to have people come back safely into the building and there’s been a lot of thought of how we do that in a responsible way.’”

Cuts to the Arts Help Philadelphia Address Huge Budget Gap

New York Times, 6/30/2020: “The City Council approved a budget last week that reduced citywide arts funding to \$5.84 million, a cut of 40 percent.”

Grand Ole Opry Finds New Purpose Amid Pandemic, Playing to Empty Houses and a New TV Audience

Variety, 6/30/2020: “Closing in on the centennial mark, radio’s longest running broadcast is leaving the seats empty but drawing a big virtual crowd.”

Here is the future of music: monetized livestreams

Bandwagon, 6/30/2020: “[A]s the music industry progresses into a vague future, musicians and companies are now looking to turn what was once an all-access platform to a business avenue.”

How to Do a Virtual Studio Visit with an Artist

Artsy, 6/30/2020: “[T]he art world is resilient and adaptable. While social distancing might prohibit old-fashioned studio visits for the foreseeable future, critics, curators, and artists have embraced the virtual. That means connecting on platforms like Zoom, FaceTime, or the underappreciated and chic Whereby—trying to conjure some of that ‘in-real-life’ magic

despite the occasional technical snafu. Below, artists share their tips on how to make a virtual studio visit an engaging success.”

John Prine, who died of COVID-19, named Honorary Illinois Poet Laureate by Gov. Pritzker

ABC 7 Chicago, 6/30/2020: “Governor JB Pritzker honored Maywood-born singer-songwriter John Prine Tuesday by naming him the state’s first Honorary Poet Laureate. Prine died on April 7 from COVID-19. The folk singer-songwriter learned to play guitar at the Old Town School of Music before being drafted into the Army. . . . He moved to Nashville in the early 1980s, but his music kept its roots in Chicago. . . . ‘I have no doubt that John would be proud and delighted to receive this recognition from his home state of Illinois,’ his widow Fiona Whelan Prine said. ‘John had great respect for writers of all kinds. He regarded poets as being among those whose work carried weight, relevance and elevated craft. It is such an honor for me, our sons and the entire Prine family to acknowledge that our beloved John will be named an Honorary Poet Laureate of the State of Illinois. Thank you, Governor Pritzker, for this wonderful recognition.’

NH arts community struggles to reopen amid pandemic

WMUR, 6/30/2020: “New Hampshire venues in the arts community can reopen this week, but it will be a while before some can welcome people back.”

Organisers Fear Glastonbury Festival Could Face Bankruptcy

GQ, 6/30/2020: “The 2020 festival was cancelled due to Covid-19. But if the 2021 event can’t take place, organisers fear the popular music festival could go bankrupt.

The Pandemic Is Still Killing People. Why Is Country Music Putting on Concerts?

Rolling Stone, 6/30/2020: “A string of country shows — some flouting social distancing and masks — were held this past weekend, including one by Chase Rice in Tennessee.”

Walker Art Center to reopen July 16

KARE 11, 6/30/2020: “One of the Twin Cities’ most popular arts stops is preparing to open its doors following what will be a four-month closure due to COVID-19. Walker Art Center will reopen to the general public July 16, with members able to come back July 10. The museum shut its doors March 13 as the pandemic took hold in order to protect both the community and employees. . . . The Walker galleries, the Walker shop and Esker Grove will all be open with modified hours and new safety protocols for guests and employees. Visitors over the age of 2 will be asked to wear masks, distances of 6 feet are required for anyone outside of a household group, and hand sanitizer units will be placed throughout the museum. Walker staff will clean touch surfaces every hour, and overall cleaning efforts will increase. To reduce touches and space needed for social distancing the museum is moving to an online ticket system, which begins June 30.”

Without MASS MoCA, Tanglewood And Other Attractions, Berkshires’ Arts Tourism Is Hurting

WBUR The Artery, 6/30/2020: “Tourism has been decimated by widespread coronavirus closures. The impact is especially hard felt in regions that rely heavily on seasonal dollars, including the Berkshires in western Massachusetts. It’s a place where art, theater and music drive a post-industrial, creative economy now shuttered by the pandemic.”

WNY musicians on reopening: From ‘I’m not ready yet’ to ‘I can’t wait’

The Buffalo News, 6/30/2020: “Though the specific details of how reopening will play out for Western New York’s music venues, clubs and patrons are, in the main, poised to eagerly embrace the reopening. But what about the musicians who will be providing that

entertainment? Since many of them depend on performing in order to pay their bills, one might assume they'd be both eager to get back to work and completely on board. However, that's not always the case."

As Coronavirus Threatens Sense Of Security, Some – Including Doctors – Turn To Art Therapy

WBZ 4 Boston, 6/29/2020: "Since the pandemic started in March, most of us have experienced a range of emotions. Processing those emotions can be challenging — particularly for frontline workers who may not have an outlet for grief, anxiety or fear. Registered Expressive Arts Therapist Jennie Kristel knew that what she needed in that period of uncertainty was art. 'I needed to get into the studio. I needed to make art. I wanted to do it with others. I wanted to share the experience I was happy to facilitate that.' She offered a Zoom arts therapy workshop and the response was 'huge.' . . . When fellow arts therapist and Lesley University faculty member Ara Parker, RCAT, learned of Kristel's workshop, she jumped at the chance to participate. The experience also gave her an idea. She had seen the power of art therapy for doctors in her native Canada and decided to offer her own sessions — pro bono — to Canadian medical workers. She asked only that they make a donation, if they were able, to Doctors Without Borders or a charity of their choice."

Arizona Closes Movie Theaters, Bars, Nightclubs Due to Surge in COVID-19 Cases

Variety, 6/29/2020: "Reacting to a surge in COVID-19 cases, Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey has ordered all movie theaters closed for 30 days, along with bars, nightclubs, gyms and water parks."

Access To Restricted Funds Could Save Struggling Museums

Law360, 6/29/2020: "The COVID-19 pandemic has shattered many economic sectors, not the least of which is the arts industry — to the tune of an estimated \$5 billion to date. Attendance at American art institutions has dropped by almost 62 million — that's about

1,000 people per organization. Over 50,000 workers have been laid off, and more than a million more are furloughed. Only 58% of arts organizations report that they are confident they will survive. While art museums across the country have closed their doors, two avenues for much needed funding to cover operating expenses may lie behind the proverbial castle walls: museum endowments and the sale of works of art from a museum's existing collections — a practice known as deaccessioning.”

Art Auction or Game Show? Sotheby's Tries Something New

New York Times, 6/30/2020: “With a ‘multicamera global livestream’ in place of its usual New York sale, the auction house tried breathing life back into a pandemic-numbed market.”

AMC Theatres, hoping to reopen in mid-July, postpones date amid COVID-19 spike

Kansas City Star, 6/29/2020: “Leawood-based AMC Theatres, which controls a quarter of the 40,000 indoor movie screen in the United States, said on Monday that it was pushing back the reopening of its theaters from July 15 to July 30. The change comes on the heels of the announcement by Warner Bros. that Christopher Nolan’s ‘Tenet,’ scheduled to open on July 17, then pushed to July 30, has now been pushed to Aug. 12. The thriller was looked at as litmus test for patrons’ return to the movies, which have been shut down since the COVID-19 outbreak began to spread widely in mid-March. COVID-19 cases have been resurging nationwide as communities and businesses have reopened.”

Britain's Tate galleries to reopen on July 27

The National, 6/30/2020: “Tate has announced plans to reopen its four British galleries on July 27 after closing in March amid the coronavirus outbreak, but with some exhibitions modified or postponed until 2021. Social distancing measures will be in place and all visitors, including members, will need to book a timed ticket online in advance, which will be available next week.

Broadway suspends performances through 2020 amid coronavirus, extends ticket refunds to 2021

USA Today, 6/29/2020: “The Broadway League announced Monday in a press release that Broadway performances in New York City will be suspended through the remainder of 2020 due to COVID-19. Broadway theaters are also now offering refunds and exchanges for tickets purchased for all performances through January 3, 2021, the release states.”

Canceled US Music Festivals Threaten to Slow Momentum for Rising Latin Acts

Billboard, 6/29/2020: “Just as relatively new indie festivals devoted to Latin music — like Los Dells in Wisconsin, Ruido Fest in Chicago and Viva! Pomona in the Los Angeles area — were building audiences and growing their brands, their momentum has come to a halt in the pandemic.”

Chase Rice Tour Rolls On ... But More COVID-19 Warnings, Precautions

TMZ, 6/30/2020: “Chase Rice isn’t letting criticism of his packed Tennessee concert slow down his mid-pandemic tour, but there are gonna be changes ... for the artist and his venues. The country music star took a lot of flak — even from fellow country musicians — after his Saturday night gig demonstrated no regard for coronavirus safety, but he says that’s being addressed for future shows.”

Critics Slam Country Artists for Playing for Unmasked Crowds

The National Herald, 6/30/2020: “Fellow musicians and fans alike are criticizing country artists who performed at outdoor concerts this weekend where social media pictures showed large, tight crowds without masks, even as COVID-19 cases resurge in the United States. Country singer Chase Rice posted video of his concert in East Tennessee with the

words 'We Back,' on the same week state health officials reported the biggest one-day jump in people testing positive for the coronavirus. . . . Rice addressed the controversy on Monday in a social media post in which he said, 'There's a lot of varying opinions, lot of different opinions on COVID-19, how it works with live music, crowds.' He said that fans' safety is a huge priority and said his next show will be a drive-in show in Kentucky. He asked fans to 'please go by the rules, please go by the laws.'"

Concerts Disappeared. Piano Sales Survived.

New York Times, 6/29/2020: "With their showrooms closed this spring, instrument dealers around the country report surprise at the robust numbers."

Coronavirus closures put Boston's arts, cultural institutions in 'dire' situation

Lowell Sun, 6/29/2020: "ocal galleries and artist spaces are shuttering at an alarming rate as the coronavirus pandemic slams Boston's storied cultural institutions large and small. 'It's another nail in the coffin,' said Parama Chattopadhyay, art director of Out of the Blue Too Gallery in Allston. The Harvard Street gallery will close its doors for good this week, unable to keep up with rent after the coronavirus pandemic forced the gallery to close to customers and cancel the art parties that helped sustain them."

Coronavirus drove a boom in virtual content; to protect artists, copyright law must catch up

Los Angeles Times, 6/29/2020: "Even before pandemic pushed our lives online, our digital moment was crying out for a new, more streamlined, simplified approach to managing this copyright can of worms. Streaming images, video, music and books turn every interaction and event into a performance, display or broadcast of intellectual property. And the law requires licenses for such streaming to protect the content of the creators."

Coronavirus-era concert-going: exploring the new normal

DW, 6/29/2020: “Performance activities are picking up in Germany. Our reporter went to find out how it feels to sit in a philharmonic hall with standards slightly loosened.”

Critics slam country artists for playing for unmasked crowds

WTOP, 6/29/2020: “Fellow musicians and fans alike are criticizing country artists who performed at outdoor concerts this weekend where social media pictures showed large, tight crowds without masks, even as COVID-19 cases resurge in the United States.”

Francis Bacon Triptych Sells for \$84.6 Million

New York Times, 6/29/2020: “Sotheby’s tests a new hybrid auction market with a work by the British painter — and socially-distanced bid-takers in three cities.”

For the arts, the show must go on after COVID-19

Policy Options, 6/29/2020: “The shutdown of the arts has had serious repercussions on the economy and on our psyche. Policies are needed to save our culture for the future.”

Global circus company Cirque du Soleil files for bankruptcy protection

CBC, 6/29/2020: “Cirque du Soleil, one of Quebec’s most internationally recognizable brands, filed for bankruptcy protection on Monday following months of meagre revenues because of the COVID-19 pandemic. A group of existing investors, with backing from the Quebec government’s investment wing, Investissement Québec, has already tabled a bid to take over the company, inject \$300 million US and provide financial support for 3,500 laid-off workers. The involvement of Investissement Québec, in the form of \$200 million US in debt financing, requires the investors to commit to keeping the company’s headquarters in Montreal. In statement made early Monday afternoon, Cirque du Soleil said Quebec Superior Court will hear its application for bankruptcy protection tomorrow. If granted, the company said it will also seek bankruptcy protection in the United States.”

How are Canadian music sales weathering COVID-19 this week? Let's take a look.

A Journal of Musical Things, 6/30/2020: "Once again, Nielsen Canada's weekly stats on Canadian music sales and streams paint a mixed picture for the industry. Here's how things look in the age of coronavirus.

- Total album sales are down 38.5% from where they were at this point in 2019.
- CD sales are 53.3% lower.
- Digital albums are down 21.9%
- Digital tracks are softer by 26.8%
- Vinyl has dropped by 26.7% year-over-year
- On-demand audio streaming is up by 16.6%.
- Alberta continues to lead the way when it comes to sales drops from 2019 (-50.5%)."

How will the COVID-19 pandemic change our relationship to art?

The London Economic, 6/30/2020: "With so much of our daily lives in complete disarray, it seems strange — almost quaint — to remember that, less than a year ago, broadsheet newspapers were getting up in arms about taking photographs in art galleries. Now, of course, the only way anyone can access gallery art at all is via their phones or laptops, making these once-stuffy institutions more willing than ever to make their work globally available digitally. But with lockdown measures still widely in place around the world, the coronavirus pandemic has led many art institutions to rethink their approach to accessibility. Here are three ways in which the art world could maintain these changes in the long term, and what they might mean for the future of art galleries."

Los Angeles Delays Movie Theater Reopenings After Rise in Coronavirus Cases

New York Times, 6/29/2020: "Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti on Monday announced he was taking a 'hard pause' on when movie theaters in the city can reopen, citing an increase in coronavirus cases."

Let's All Go To The Movies: Theatrical Storytelling In A Post-Covid World

Forbes, 6/30/2020: "The movie business has never faced disruption like the coronavirus crisis. There has never been a simultaneous production shutdown and the inability to distribute theatrical content. While studios can continue to develop projects and pivot releases, Hollywood's movie machine is on its knees. The question is, will it stand again?"

MTV Will Still Hold in-Person 2020 VMAs, Governor Cuomo Announces

Vulture, 6/29/2020: "As events from last night's BET Awards to April's Academy of Country Music Awards special have shown, you can put on a damn entertaining remote ceremony. But as they say, ain't nothing like the real thing, so MTV is going ahead with a live Video Music Awards on August 30. New York governor Andrew Cuomo announced the news on June 29, saying the event would be held at Brooklyn's Barclays Center arena with 'limited or no audience.'"

New Colorado State study could impact future of performing arts

WWLP, 6/29/2020: "Colorado State University (CSU) announced a new study that could shed light on how the performing arts could make a comeback, safely. The goal of this research is to determine the size and number of human particles emitted during performances. . . . The study will measure particles emitted by dozens of volunteer singers, dancers, actors and musicians. . . . The researchers will use a chamber designed specifically to measure human aerosol emissions."

Perot, Other Downtown Dallas Museums Pause Reopening Plans Due to COVID-19

NBC DFW, 6/29/2020: "The Perot Museum of Nature and Science paused its plans to reopen in early July due to the spike in COVID-19 cases in Dallas County and the recent

rollback of Texas' reopening phases. The Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum also decided to pause its plans to reopen on July 8, it said in a joint statement issued by a group of downtown Dallas museums that include the Dallas Museum of Art, Nasher Sculpture Center, Crow Museum of Asian Art, and The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza."

Sundance 2021 Will Be Held in at Least 20 Cities

New York Times, 6/29/2020: "In response to the pandemic as well as a desire for more racial and socioeconomic diversity, the Utah event will simultaneously take place in cinemas around North America."

Streaming in C minor: How classical music survived Covid-19

The Spinoff, 6/30/2020: "As New Zealand's musicians return to the concert hall, Richard Betts checks in with our classical music organisations for reasons to be cheerful."

Sundance Film Festival Exploring Major Changes as Coronavirus Still Looms

Variety, 6/29/2020: "The 2021 edition of the Sundance Film Festival will include a combination of virtual screenings and physical events, a hybrid model that is growing increasingly popular during the coronavirus pandemic."

The arts, funding, and COVID-19

The Sun, 6/30/2020: "Patrick-Jude Oteh: These are not the best of times. These are not the best of times for the entertainment industry. These are not the best of times for the arts. But has it ever been the best of times for our profession?"

Without Concerts, Artists Are Turning to Ice Cream Deals and Sponsored Livestreams

Rolling Stone, 6/29/2020: “Major artists are turning to brand partnerships in droves for new revenue streams. Since COVID hit, deal-making has been ‘heightened on steroids,’ says one agency exec.”

Want to know when life will get back to normal? Keep an eye on Hollywood.

Washington Post, 6/30/2020: “For all Hollywood is derided as a bubble, it’s worth watching how the movie and television industries respond to the covid-19 pandemic, and not merely so we’ll know when we can get back to having fun. Given what it takes to make movies and television, and how to get people into theaters, the entertainment business can give us early signs of when we might return to normal — and what normal might look like when we get there.”

Why Credit Suisse Is Very Worried About Movie Theaters Reopening

24/7 Wall Street, 6/29/2020: “Credit Suisse issued a scathing industry downgrade for movie theater chains on Monday. With the COVID-19 cases surging in states like California, Florida and Texas, the firm pointed out that these are also the top three states for theaters as they account for 35% of the U.S. box office.”

As COVID-19 surges, country star Chase Rice plays packed concert for a thousand mask-free fans

Los Angeles Times, 6/28/2020: “As COVID-19 surges throughout the South and West, country music singers Chase Rice and Chris Janson each played to packed concerts on Saturday, where many fans chose to ignore recommended safety measures against spreading and contracting the disease. The two singers performed sets in Tennessee and Idaho, respectively, to crowds who, in video footage of the sets, are seen pressed tightly in front of the stages, singing along to songs, their faces not covered by masks.”

Museum of the City of New York: Reduced but Reopening

New York Times, 6/28/2020: “After layoffs, furloughs and salary cuts, the museum prepares to reopen with a reduced budget and will present an exhibition about the pandemic.”

CCMF alum says he tested positive for coronavirus after performing at Grand Strand venues

Myrtle Beach Online, 6/27/2020: “A Carolina Country Music Festival alum announced recently he’s tested positive for COVID-19 — and he might have contracted it in the Myrtle Beach area. Darrell Harwood, a Salisbury, North Carolina resident, who performed in the 2015 and 2017 CCMF events in Myrtle Beach, made an announcement concerning his health on his personal Facebook page June 20.”

Seward musicians test positive for virus after Fairbanks show last weekend

Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, 6/27/2020: “Two members of the Seward-based band Blackwater Railroad Company have tested positive for COVID-19 after playing a packed show at local Fairbanks bar and outdoor music venue The Boatel last week.”

‘We Can’t Do Our Craft’: Conductors Contend With the Pandemic

New York Times, 6/26/2020: “With most orchestral concerts canceled, conductors have been largely invisible.”

Austin music venues deal with new phase of coronavirus shutdowns

Austin 360, 6/26/2020: “A handful of Austin music venues that had started to feature live music in recent weeks as Texas moved to reopen businesses during the coronavirus

pandemic faced an abrupt shift Friday. An executive order from Gov. Greg Abbott shut down bars — again.”

COVID-19 wrecked Theatre Suburbia’s plans this weekend

Houston Chronicle, 6/26/2020: “The community theater group’s attempt to stage a production of ‘Daddy’s Dyin’: Who’s Got the Will?’ turned into a case study of trying to stage a public event in the age of COVID-19.”

Detroit Institute of Arts to reopen in July after coronavirus shutdown

Detroit Free Press, 6/26/2020: “The Detroit Institute of Arts announced Thursday that it will open its doors July 10, after a four-month shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The guest list for the DIA’s first weekend back, however, will be limited. The reopening dates of July 10-12 are being reserved specifically for museum members and those living in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. There will be new hours and extensive safety procedures aimed at protecting staff members and visitors from the virus. And until further notice, field trips, group tours and events inside the museum will not be available.”

Marching bands aren’t sure how to handle the pandemic. So they commissioned two studies involving spit.

Tampa Bay Times, 6/26/2020: “At least 74 organizations — including the band directors associations from every Power Five conference and the Florida Music Education Association — have donated to fund a pair of scientific studies starting up at the University of Colorado and the University of Maryland. What those researchers find in the coming weeks will influence everything from how Florida State fans hear the War Chant this September to how middle school directors lay out chairs for rehearsals.”

Opinion: The UK arts sector was thriving before coronavirus. It’s folly not to save it

The Guardian, 6/26/2020: “Our booming film, television, theatre and design industries can’t leap back to life if venues are bankrupt and talent has fled.”

Performing Arts Series: Stories of Surviving COVID-19 — New England Conservatory

The Arts Fuse, 6/26/2020: “New England Conservatory’s students are scattered across the globe in lockdown. NEC wanted to connect to its pupils through their inspirational love of performance, so the school created the video ‘Music Prevails.’ The idea was to project a sense of togetherness through music. It is also an assertion of the institution’s future — a sign that these difficult days will pass.”

Sleepless in Seattle Musical Eyes Fall Open in London Under COVID-19 Guidelines

Playbill, 6/26/2020: “After scrapping its spring premiere, the new musical based on *Sleepless in Seattle* now intends to open this fall with myriad safety measures in place in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. *Sleepless* will now begin August 25 at the Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre (its originally announced home) with opening night set for September 1. The limited run will play through September 27. Following advice from the World Health Organization and Public Health England, the production and theatre will work to ensure there is no physical contact between staff and audiences, and that social distance measures are enforced. Theatregoers will have their temperatures checked upon entry and will be required to wear face masks. Hand sanitization stations will be available around the venue, which will be deep cleaned after each performance. Additionally, cast, crew, and audiences will be sent up-to-date information 48 hours before each performance.”

The fringe is the lifeblood of British theatre, but coronavirus is killing it

The Guardian, 6/26/2020: “Unless the government comes up quickly with a financial package for them, about a third of Britain’s fringe theatres will not reopen after the

coronavirus crisis. The rest may struggle on, their capacity to take risks greatly reduced. This grim prediction comes from the Society of Independent Theatres (SIT), which represents 44 of London's 50 or so small fringe theatres, pub theatres and experimental theatres, and 10 more outside London. SIT says: 'Fringe and pub venues are the engine room of British theatre ... It is in these venues that both emerging and established artists grow in a supportive, nurturing environment.'"

A Met Opera Star Was Born, 'Then Everything Stopped'

New York Times, 6/26/2020: "The mezzo-soprano J'Nai Bridges reckons with the challenges of the pandemic along with other freelance musicians, like the pianist Conor Hanick."

Theatre and music figures say roadmap is 'meaningless' without support

BBC News, 6/26/2020: "A government roadmap for the return of live theatre and music has been met with calls for financial support and a timetable for reopening, with many dismissing the plan as inadequate. The five-step roadmap did not come with dates or monetary help attached. Actors' union Equity said that without investment to save jobs and venues, such guidance 'will be meaningless'."

'It's too soon to go to a movie theater,' infectious disease experts warn

CNBC, 6/25/2020: "Movie theater owners may be eager to reopen their screens to the public, but health experts aren't convinced that it's time to head back to cinemas."

Bonnaroo Canceled Because of COVID-19

Rolling Stone, 6/25/2020: "Bonnaroo 2020 has been canceled because of continued concerns over COVID-19. Back in March, the Manchester, Tennessee, festival moved its regular June dates to September in the hopes that conditions would have improved enough

to allow for such a large-scale gathering. In canceling for 2020, Bonnaroo has scheduled its 2021 dates for June 17th through the 20th. Those with tickets to this year's event will be able to roll their tickets over to next year's event, although refunds for tickets and accommodations will also be available."

Flynn Center: No Main Stage performances for remainder of 2020

Burlington Free Press, 6/25/2020: "Don't bank on catching any big shows downtown at the Flynn this year. The Main Stage Theater will not host performances for the rest of 2020, according to a news release from the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts. The venue made this decision due to COVID-19, the official name of the disease related to the coronavirus that first started to affect people at the end of 2019."

JP Residents, Urbano Project Receive City Grants for Public Art Projects in Response to COVID-19

Jamaica Plain News, 6/25/2020: "A total of \$35,000 in grants were given through the city's Transformative Public Art Program. The city announced a call to artists in April with particular interest in temporary and new media art projects that respond to COVID-19."

Music festival originally billed as COVID Herd Immunity Fest planned for July 16-18 in Marathon County

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 6/25/2020: "A three-day music festival originally named the COVID Herd Immunity Fest is planned at The Q & Z Expo Center next month. The outdoor event, now advertised as July Mini Fest, will take place from July 16 through July 18 at the Marathon County music venue about 12 miles east of Wausau. Fifteen bands are expected to perform. A poster for the event posted on the venue's Facebook page on June 19 referred to the festival as the COVID Herd Immunity Fest. But organizers have since changed the name and are not using it on any promotional materials, according to a post on the venue's Facebook page."

Some of France's Only Live Theater Right Now Is a Historical Affront

New York Times, 6/25/2020: "A theme park's whiz-bang performances are an odd mix of high-quality production values and one-dimensional storytelling. Historians have long disputed the narratives."

Hugh Jackman's 'The Music Man' postpones Broadway opening to 2021 due to coronavirus

USA Today, 6/24/2020: "The highly anticipated Broadway revival, starring Hugh Jackman and Tony winner Sutton Foster, has postponed its opening due to coronavirus concerns. Originally set for an October release, the show will now open on May 20, 2021, with previews starting on April 7, 2021."

Judi Dench Fears Theaters Won't Reopen in Her 'Lifetime' Amid Coronavirus

People, 6/24/2020: "Dame Judi Dench is fearful she won't see theaters reopen after they shut down due to the coronavirus pandemic. The actress, 85, spoke to Channel 4 News on Wednesday in which she admitted she didn't know how the theater industry would recover in the U.K. without government help."

Mystic Seaport Museum to close Maritime Art Gallery

The Westerly Sun, 6/24/2020: "In a sign of the times, the Mystic Seaport Museum will close its famed Maritime Art Gallery in August for good. The official closing date is Aug. 23, but the gallery will remain open on a limited basis and by appointment. 'COVID has forced us to take a very hard look at our business operations,' said Seaport spokesman Dan McFadden Monday afternoon. 'It wasn't making money.'"

People turn to Twitter to expose the catastrophic collapse of theatre and arts during coronavirus

ClassicFM, 6/24/2020: “In desperate times for the arts world, writers, actors, musicians and theatre-lovers are taking to Twitter to make themselves heard. The social platform is telling of mass redundancies, theatres closing until 2021, and the catastrophic impact of allowing venues to reopen – but banning live performances. Here are just some of the realities facing the industry.”

14 Veteran Touring Artists on Life Without Concerts

Rolling Stone, 6/23/2020: “‘I’m not dying for Donald Trump,’ says John Fogerty. ‘I’m not dying for the economy.’”

Houston Grand Opera Cancels All Performances Until April 2021 — Coronavirus Realities Deal a Cruel Performing Arts Blow

Paper City, 6/23/2020: “Houston Grand Opera revealed Tuesday evening that due to the coronavirus pandemic, all HGO productions have been canceled until April 2021. This is a major blow to opera devotees and performing arts backers alike. The opera company joins other Houston performing arts groups that have been forced, due to COVID-19, to slash schedules, cut staff, and reduce salaries, including the Houston Symphony, Theatre for the Performing Arts, and the Alley Theatre.”

Steppenwolf Theatre resets season in the shadow of COVID-19

Chicago Daily Herald, 6/23/2020: “Steppenwolf Theatre announced its 2020/2021 “reset season” will include a new virtual platform and “risk free membership” that guarantees a refund if theater artists are unable to perform or if patrons don’t feel comfortable attending a performance out of public health concerns. Initiated in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that shuttered the nation’s theaters in March, Steppenwolf’s reset season will

consist of four plays instead of six and will include the first transfer of a young adult production to the main stage.”

Support for artists is key to returning to vibrant cultural life post-coronavirus

The Conversation, 6/23/2020: “Artists are crucial to the futures we’re imagining beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. The vitality of the societies we wish to return to are vibrant in large part because they sound and look vibrant, because they are full of artists thriving and sharing music in a variety of settings.”

Theater in the time of COVID-19: How area theaters and theater artists are coping during the pandemic

The Berkshire Edge, 6/23/2020: Jim Frangione: “Over the past few weeks, I had the opportunity to talk with many of our south and central county-area theaters’ artistic directors, actors and designers about how they are faring during the coronavirus pandemic of 2020. All seemed eager to convey to me how they’ve been finding unique ways to cope and thrive, creating a bulwark against the adverse effects of the shutdown. Even facing the loss of much of their incomes and with an uncertain future, among the vast numbers of Berkshire theater artists with whom I spoke, there is a clear sentiment of positivity and generosity of spirit that’s served as a counterpoint to initial feelings of disbelief, gloom and even despair in these days of seasonal shutdowns, rollbacks and programming cancellations.”

What can we expect when SF museums, other attractions reopen?

Datebook, 6/23/2020: “San Francisco officials on Friday, June 26, reversed course on plans to accelerate the city’s reopening timeline, which would have allowed indoor museums and zoos to reopen as soon as Monday, June 29. The decision followed a spike in new COVID-19 cases in the Bay Area.”

As movie theaters reopen, they're tackling a role they never expected to play: Psychologist

Washington Post, 6/22/2020: "All industries, of course, must figure out how to put customers at ease during the pandemic. But movie theaters face a distinct strain of the problem. More than airlines, retail and even restaurants, movie theaters thrive on a sense of refuge, peddling the joy of leaving reality at the door to plunge into imaginary new worlds. That's tough to do when employees are handing out masks, enforcing seat distances and scanning for pallid complexions."

Atlanta Artists Deface Their Own Murals To Bring Awareness To COVID-19 In Minority Communities

WABE, 6/22/2020: "It is a cruel act of vandalism when a work of art has been defaced, but artists defacing their own work is another story. A COVID-19 prevention campaign, "Big Facts, Small Acts," has enlisted Atlanta artists for their grassroots effort targeted at Black and brown communities. Artists such as Fabian Williams, Dubelyoo, Matt Letrs, and Melissa Mitchell are adding masks to their own paintings. Those of Martin Luther King Jr., Colin Kaepernick, Bob Marley, and others. 'Big Facts, Small Acts' spearheaded this effort as a way to remind minority communities and others to wear their masks."

Coronavirus: French defy lockdown with Festival of Music

BBC News, 6/22/2020: "Thousands of people gathered across France on Sunday to celebrate an annual music festival, defying coronavirus lockdown restrictions. Revellers ignored social distancing rules and danced in the streets for the Fête de la Musique, known as Music Day in English. Police clashed with some revellers in Paris and with demonstrators in Nantes, using tear gas against protesters."

Covid-19 is an existential threat to Britain's theatres

The Economist, 6/22/2020: "BRITISH THEATRE has endured crises before. Playhouses closed during outbreaks of the plague: between 1603 and 1613, William Shakespeare's later play-writing years, the Globe theatre in London was shut for a total of 78 months. War

can have a similar effect. All the country's theatres were shuttered at the start of the civil war in 1642 and did not reopen until the Puritans lost power in 1660. All theatres closed at the outbreak of the second world war, though some were quick to reopen. This will be of little comfort, though, to the actors, stagehands, costumers, ticket sellers, bar workers and more who have seen their livelihoods disintegrate thanks to the lockdown."

UK arts' leading figures join call for green recovery from coronavirus crisis

The Guardian, 6/22/2020: The chiefs of scores of the UK's foremost arts and culture organisations have joined the call for a green recovery from the coronavirus crisis, even as their own sector faces the biggest threat to its existence in modern times. Sir Mark Rylance, Neil Tennant of the Pet Shop Boys, Brian Eno and the leaders of the Tate and National Youth Theatre are among those signing a letter asking the government to adopt green and carbon-cutting targets alongside its economic rescue plans. Close to 400 arts leaders and prominent individuals have now signed the letter, which will be presented to the culture secretary, Oliver Dowden, this week."

Why COVID-19 Is an Unprecedented Opportunity to Radically Rethink Arts Funding

Artsy, 6/20/2020: "COVID-19's devastating effect on the already precarious financial state of so many reflects a long history of devaluing and underfunding our creative economy."

Opera Has Vanished. So Have Their Dream Jobs at the Met.

New York Times, 6/19/2020: "The company's orchestra offered prestige and job security. But the pandemic has upended hundreds of lives."

Conversations: Will the market's digital pivot continue?

Art Basel, n.d.: "Ahead of the launch of the second edition of Art Basel's Online Viewing Rooms, Marc Spiegler discussed the rise of the digital in the contemporary art market with art advisor Ashley Carr, gallerist Kamel Mennour, and art collector Arif Suherman"

AMC, the largest movie theater chain, reverses optional face mask policy after public outcry

USA Today, 6/19/2020: "AMC Theatres on Friday reversed its optional mask policy and will require employees and guests to wear masks when the movie theater chain reopens."

Andrew Lloyd Webber calls on theatre industry to stay 'positive' as he plans safety tests for London Palladium

Evening Standard, 6/19/2020: "The 72-year-old plans to trial measures at The London Palladium after Phantom Of The Opera continued in South Korea with strict hygiene measures and no social distancing."

Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center Cancel Fall Schedules Over Coronavirus Concerns

The Hollywood Reporter, 6/19/2020: "Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts have canceled their fall schedules due to the coronavirus pandemic, and the New York City Ballet called off its annual holiday presentation of Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker."

Knighted Impresario of the British Stage Bets on Live Theater During the Pandemic

Bloomberg, 6/19/2020: "Howard Panter on his growing global ambitions and how live entertainment can overcome the coronavirus."

Long Wharf Uses Crises As Opportunity To Reshape The Theater

New Haven Independent, 6/19/2020: “Long Wharf Theatre is facing the financial stress that theaters across the country feel as they remain dark during the Covid-19 pandemic. As a theater committed to social justice, it is also figuring out how best to play a role in the country’s reckoning with racism.”

Movie Theater Chains Reopen Amid Coronavirus Pandemic, But Will Fans Return?

Investors Business Daily, 6/19/2020: “As big screens start to reopen this summer, assuming the Covid-19 threat recedes, the big question is whether consumers will even want to return to the cinema. Movie theater chains are promising to deep-clean facilities and lower their capacity by spacing out seating for patrons. But polls show many people are reluctant to sit indoors with a bunch of strangers to catch a movie for fear of catching Covid-19 too.”

Post-Covid Music World May Have Fewer Changes Than You Think

Forbes, 6/19/2020: “Success over the years with stars like Wu Bai, Wakin Chau, Jackie Chan and Anita Mui have helped to keep Taiwan entrepreneur Sam Duann an influential voice in Asia’s music industry since the 1990s and turned his Rock Records into one of region’s most successful independent record labels. Covid-19 has disrupted business for the global music industry’s biggest stars this year, Duann said in an interview in Taipei this week. Longer term, however, its impact may be less than you’d expect, he said. ‘When we go back to normal, we will forget what happened in the period quickly. Very quickly, I think,’ Duann predicted.”

Showcasing a new approach for the movie theater business

Boston Globe, 6/19/2020: “On June 22, Showcase Cinemas, the movie-theater chain owned by Norwood-based National Amusements, will officially launch ShowcaseNOW (showcasenow.showcasecinemas.com/), the first video-on-demand service to be run by a major brick-and-mortar exhibitor.”

Still in step: how US dancers are coping with lockdown

The Guardian, 6/19/2020: “Performers used to gracing the world’s stages are now in confinement. But, as one says, ‘When you restrict your options, sometimes creativity is born.’”

The Best and Worst Case Scenarios for Music Festivals in 2021

Vice, 6/19/2020: “But with much of the UK coming out from lockdown, it begs the question: what will happen 12 months down the line, in summer 2021, when these events return? I spoke to experts from across the festival industry, to get a flavour of what we can expect to see from UK bashes next year.”

Will Older Moviegoers Return to Theaters Post-Pandemic?

The Hollywood Reporter, 6/19/2020: “Senior film fans around the world have been a boon for the box office and are the core audience for art house cinemas — but the demographic is most at risk for COVID-19.”

‘A Bricks-and-Clicks Approach Is the Way Forward’: Berlin Dealers Report Lively In-Person Sales at the Art Basel Booths They Built in Their Galleries

artnet news, 6/18/2020: “A cohort of Berlin art dealers who participate in Art Basel decided that showing work online only was not enough.”

After Backlash, AMC Says Masks Will Be Required in Theaters

New York Times, 6/18/2020: “A day after the movie chain’s chief told Variety that the company ‘did not want to be drawn into a political controversy,’ it reversed its policy and will now require masks.”

For Classical Music, Spring Was the Season of Solos

New York Times, 6/18/2020: “Large ensembles typically dominate the classical calendar. But the coronavirus turned the spotlight on individual artists.”

Seeking Shakespeare in the Park This Summer? Turn on Your Radio

New York Times, 6/18/2020: “The Public Theater, prevented by public health concerns from performing in Central Park, has joined forces with WNYC to turn ‘Richard II’ into a four-part radio play.”

87% of music teachers have adapted to virtual classes, ABRSM survey reveals

ClassicFM, 6/18/2020: “As the doors for many British schools have remained closed during the coronavirus outbreak, music teachers are sharing their expertise online. A new study has revealed that music lessons have been transformed, amid the coronavirus pandemic. Led by the Associated Boards of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), the research shows that 87 percent of teachers are now reaching their students virtually, while many schools across the UK remain closed.”

British theatre has a class problem, and coronavirus could make it worse

The Guardian, 6/18/2020: “To return the theatre to health, we need more diversity among artists and audiences – and cheaper tickets.”

David Zwirner sold a Jeff Koons sculpture for \$8 million through the gallery's online showroom.

Artsy, 6/18/2020: "A Jeff Koons sculpture sold for \$8 million through David Zwirner's online digital showroom this week. Balloon Venus Lespugue (Red) (2013–19), part of Koons's 'Celebration' series, marks the highest sale price for any single artwork sold online by the gallery, and is on view as part of 'Studio: Jeff Koons,' the gallery's online exhibition highlighting the prolific artist's process."

Getty Foundation awards 400 artists and 80 arts organizations \$2.7 million in COVID-19 relief grants

Archinect News, 6/18/2020: "400 artists and 80 arts organizations have received \$2.7 million in total grants as part of a broad-based COVID-19 relief effort for the visual arts in the Los Angeles region, the J. Paul Getty Trust and the California Community Foundation announced this week. 'The arts are a source of expression, resistance, and healing,' said Joan Weinstein, director of the Getty Foundation in a statement. 'But our creative artists and arts organizations, who do so much to advocate for social change, will not survive this pandemic and its economic fallout if we don't take action now to support them.'"

High-Octane Sales During the VIP Preview of Art Basel's Second Online Fair Solidify the 'New Normal' of the Socially Distanced Art Market

artnet news, 6/18/2020: "The online stand-in for the marquee Swiss fair saw familiar galleries striking plenty of deals under \$1 million, but few true fireworks."

Jersey Shore Museums Ease Into Reopening as State Moves Further Along Phase 2

NBC 4 New York, 6/18/2020: "It's a subtle, but important sign of New Jersey's economic and cultural recovery — you can visit Lucy the Elephant again. The roadside icon is one of a number of attractions along the Jersey Shore that have quietly started reopening since the state entered Phase 2 of its coronavirus recovery plan, according to R.C. Staab, author of

‘100 Things to Do at the Jersey Shore Before You Die.’ The problem, he noted, is the lack of clarity about how exactly these facilities can open and when.”

Live music returns to Beale Street after COVID-19 shutdown: ‘It’s a victory’

Memphis Commercial Appeal, 6/18/2020: “Patrons’ temperatures were taken at the door, bartenders and waitstaff were wearing masks and gloves, there was limited capacity set for the venue [B.B. King’s], and a 13-foot distance between the stage and the nearest table. For live acts returning to performing in Memphis, this will be — for the foreseeable future, anyway — the new normal.”

New York City Ballet cancels fall season, axes ‘Nutcracker’

New York Daily News, 6/18/2020: “The New York City Ballet canceled one of its most popular Christmas performances, along with its entire fall season, over concerns about the coronavirus pandemic, the company said Thursday.”

Six movies resuming production after coronavirus

BBC News, 6/18/2020: “[A]round the world some of the big-hitters are starting to recommence production – which was of course halted by Covid-19 – in a variety of socially-distanced ways. Here are just six of the films to keep your fingers crossed for then in 2021, when the cinemas are hopefully back in business.”

A message from... Katja Novitskova

Art Basel, n.d.: “The pandemic ‘will affect the art we will be able to make and see in the near future,’ says the artist from her Amsterdam retreat”

What will become of Boston’s fall classical music season?

Boston Globe, 6/18/2020: “Faced with the seemingly irreconcilable requirements of keeping musicians and audiences safe while keeping their organizations financially viable,

many American groups have already thrown in the towel on their fall seasons. The New York Philharmonic did so this month. The Nashville Symphony recently canceled the entirety of its 2020-21 season. And in Boston, while the BSO's upcoming season is still officially on the books, the orchestra is reckoning with an autumn return to Symphony Hall unlike any in its history, if it happens at all."

Peabody Essex Museum cuts staff by 15% as pandemic freezes out revenue

Boston Globe, 6/17/2020: "The Peabody Essex Museum has cut its workforce by 15 percent, citing a projected \$6 million revenue loss this year due to the protracted coronavirus crisis. In a statement, director Brian Kennedy expressed 'deep regret that these layoffs are now necessary.' According to Wednesday's announcement, jobs have been eliminated for 38 of the museum's 260 permanent employees. Senior staff earning more than \$110,000 per year will also see their pay cut between 10 and 25 percent."

Beijing's art world faces another lockdown amid a surge in COVID-19 cases.

Artsy, 6/17/2020: "A new cluster of COVID-19 cases in Beijing's Fengtai District has sent some of the city's art world institutions back into lockdown. As of Tuesday, Chinese officials have traced 137 new cases to the Xinfadi Wholesale Produce Market in southern Beijing, with schools across the city closing as a result, along with residential buildings in the surrounding area being placed under quarantine. Several private museums have followed suit, voluntarily closing locations to stem the spread of infections. M Woods closed its doors today after reopening on June 12th, while Minsheng Art Museum Beijing and the newly-launched X Museum closed earlier this week. The UCCA Center for Contemporary Art will remain open at a 30 percent attendance capacity in accordance with government guidelines."

Classic venues that launched music legends may vanish thanks to COVID-19

CBS News, 6/17/2020: “The music industry has all but given up hosting music festivals this summer, and there are no big tours filling stadiums. The bands who headline these events usually cut their teeth in small live clubs, but most of those stages, according to a recent survey, are in danger of never reopening.”

Coronavirus: Cirque du Soleil Artists Hold Protest over Work Contracts they Say went Unpaid

Circus Talk, 6/17/2020: “On the day of the Cirque du Soleil’s 36th anniversary, some of its employees and artists gathered in front of the circus’ marquee in Montreal’s Old Port on Tuesday to mark the occasion and to demand they get paid nearly \$1.5 million they claim they are owed for services they provided before the novel coronavirus pandemic hit.”

Coronavirus: Culture secretary hints at theatre bailouts as job cuts bite

Yahoo Finance, 6/17/2020: “Culture secretary Oliver Dowden has said the government is examining special measures to support the UK’s ailing theatre sector, as West End grandees warn the industry is ‘on the brink of ruin’. Dowden said during the daily Downing Street press briefing on Wednesday he was leading discussions about possible targeted support for the performing arts.”

COVID-19 theater think tank looks at reopening strategies

Broadway News, 6/17/2020: “A COVID-19 theater think tank has launched a website to help theaters across the country identify risks and areas of improvement related to the virus. Created by producer and publicist Matt Ross in early April, the think tank is composed of three dozen theatermakers across all disciplines, as well as a team of epidemiologists from the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy. Together, the group is releasing guidelines drawn from public health data and specifically formulated for theater, as well as educational resources on how different areas of the field are handling the virus.”

How Galleries Are Supporting and Signing New Artists during the Pandemic

Artsy, 6/17/2020: “Despite [the pandemic] daunting and potentially paralyzing landscape, many galleries have mustered the courage (and the bandwidth) to soldier on and even sign new artists. Since the start of the pandemic, major galleries have snapped up famous artists—like Gagosian taking over representation of Titus Kaphar, and Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac signing the sculptor Ron Mueck—and smaller spaces have committed to nurturing emerging artists: Detroit’s Library Street Collective took on painter Jammie Holmes, and Los Angeles’s Roberts Projects signed Wangari Mathenge. A few galleries have brought multiple artists onto their rosters in recent months, like London’s Stephen Friedman Gallery and Hollis Taggart in New York.”

How to keep theater alive when there’s no live theater

Fortune, 6/17/2020: “It was devastating to see how quickly the American theater collapsed in the midst of the COVID-19 quarantine—and I say this as someone who lost both my jobs by March 24—but from a certain perspective it wasn’t exactly surprising. Until this spring, our entire industry was built on an economy of scarcity. My fellow theater artists and I knew that movies and TV had a certain cultural advantage because they were available everywhere and to everyone, but we argued the essence of our work was in its fundamental ephemerality. . . . We spent a lot of time affirming that productions gained an almost sacred worth because the intimate magic they created was unavailable to most people. We weren’t entirely wrong. The unrepeatable ‘liveness’ of the theater can indeed be exhilarating, and speaking for myself, it has often created an almost religious awe. But on some level my colleagues and I knew that we could use that ephemerality as an excuse to make our work as selectively accessible as a luxury good.”

Live Nation Wants Artists to Take Pay Cuts and Cancellation Burdens for Shows in 2021

Rolling Stone, 6/17/2020: “In a memo obtained by Rolling Stone, Live Nation cites ‘unprecedented times’ and ‘the exponential rise of certain costs’ as reasons for adjusting payment policies.”

Some museums might not reopen post-COVID. Here’s why that matters.

World Economic Forum, 6/17/2020: “Last month, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Council of Museums (ICOM) reported dire statistics about the impacts of COVID-19 on the global museum landscape. According to their surveys, about 90 percent of 95,000 museums closed their doors during the pandemic. Almost one third could downsize, according to estimates, and nearly 13 percent may not reopen. The findings also expose alarming inequalities in regional impacts; the greatest concerns about permanent closure come from African, Arab and Pacific countries, where museums are relatively young and scarce. Other concerns include inadequate security management, structural safety, and collections conservation during COVID-19 lockdowns. These statistics warn of immeasurable losses to culture, history and science. “

The Next Stage: UK Theatres Adapt To Social Distancing

International Business Times, 6/17/2020: “London’s West End has traditionally drawn people from all over the world to see its shows but theatres have been forced to reinvent themselves because of the coronavirus outbreak. . . . But the pandemic brought the curtain down on venues in March, leaving theatres facing an uncertain future where continued social distancing measures threaten their existence. Louis Hartshorn and Brian Hook, co-founders of Hartshorn-Hook Productions, are among the first to adapt to the new reality, announcing the reopening of an immersive adaptation of “The Great Gatsby” to open in October. ‘The show will be reimagined as a masquerade ball,’ Hook told AFP. Spectators are invited to wear masks, which they can integrate into their disguise, and gloves if they wish.

The audience will also be reduced to 90, down from 240 previously, and the schedule has been changed to allow for thorough clean-ups. But Hartshorn admitted that ‘we have to do extremely well in order to break even because the numbers are against us’.

Why Satie? Why now? How one composer embodies our time of loneliness and angst

Los Angeles Times, 6/17/2020: “Safe at home this spring has not necessarily meant sane at home. One antidote is a mega-dose of Erik Satie.”

Bookstores Are Struggling. Is a New E-Commerce Site the Answer?

New York Times, 6/16/2020: “The rapid rise of Bookshop.org during the shutdown has been hailed as a boon for independent stores. But some booksellers worry it could become another competitor for online business.

Chicago’s Mercury Theater closing permanently, due to fallout from COVID-19 pandemic

Chicago Sun-Times, 6/16/2020: “The theater’s executive director cited extreme loss of revenue due to the mandated shutdown brought on by the coronavirus pandemic.”

Coronavirus Could Cost U.K. Film and TV Sector \$45 Billion in Revenues, Report Projects

Variety, 6/16/2020: “The U.K. film, television, video and photography industries are projected to shrink 57% and lose £36 billion (\$45.3 billion) in revenues in 2020 due to the effects of the coronavirus pandemic, according to a report by Oxford Economics. The report also forecasts that as social distancing constraints impact cinema capacity and the cost of filmmaking, 102,000 or 42% of jobs across the industries will be lost.”

Covid-19 has silenced choirs – we must find a way to restart singing together

The Guardian, 6/16/2020: “Britain’s once vibrant choral landscape faces an uncertain future, write Bob Chilcott, John Rutter, Sarah Connolly and other music directors, conductors and composers.”

Creating Art And Coming Together In The Coronavirus Pandemic

WGBH, 6/16/2020: “The coronavirus pandemic has forced community arts organizations to find new ways to foster community and share creative work. Cristina Quinn reports on a group of Boston teens who have risen to the challenge.”

How beret dare they: survey says artists are the most non-essential workers

The Art Newspaper, 6/16/2020: “Social media backlash prompts clarification from researchers after Singaporean newspaper poll paints artists in poor light. . . . The market research company responsible for the results, Milieu Insight, subsequently released a blog post detailing its methodology after some of the backlash online. The survey gave respondents a list of 20 jobs from which they would first pick the most essential and then, from the remaining ones, the jobs that are ‘absolutely not essential’, selecting as many for either list as they wished. Furthermore, essential workers were described in the questionnaire as having to meet ‘basic human needs’. The company added in the blogpost that ‘some could argue that art is a basic human need, and many of us at Milieu would agree’.”

Joffrey Ballet cancels all performances through the end of 2020

Chicago Sun-Times, 6/16/2020: “The company’s fall productions would have marked the debut of the Joffrey at the Lyric Opera House, part of a new seven-year rental agreement between the two cultural arts entities.”

Live music returns to Milwaukee clubs for the first time since the coronavirus crisis began

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 6/16/2020: “Live music has come back at bars, restaurants and campsites around Wisconsin, and there have been drive-in concerts in Grafton and Hillsboro. Now live music is returning to a few small Milwaukee venues for the first time since the coronavirus pandemic triggered a statewide shutdown in March.”

Mellon grants \$10 million to arts groups hurt by COVID-19

Atlanta Journal Constitution, 6/16/2020: “The Andrew Mellon Foundation announced Tuesday it will give \$10 million to small and midsize arts organizations around the country that have been hurt by the COVID-19 pandemic. The gift will be administered by six regional arts organizations, including Atlanta-based non-profit South Arts.”

Newspaper survey naming artists as ‘the top non-essential job’ prompts passionate backlash

ClassicFM, 6/16/2020: “In an article over the weekend, Singapore’s *The Sunday Times* revealed the results of a survey on people’s perceptions of essential jobs during a pandemic. In the poll, the paper asked participants to rank what they saw as the most essential and non-essential jobs. The ‘top five essential jobs’ were taken by healthcare workers, cleaners, essential retail, and other front-line roles. However, the survey’s list of the ‘top five non-essential jobs’ caused a stir. Telemarketers, social media managers, PR specialists and business consultants all rank as disposable roles at a time of crisis. And at the top of the list is ‘artists’. Yes, writers, actors, painters, dancers, musicians, composers, creatives, that’s you. But outside of this survey, the world could not disagree more.”

Oscars Pushed Back Two Months Due To Coronavirus Outbreak

Patch – Hollywood, 6/16/2020: “The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences pushed back the Academy Awards as well as the opening of Academy’s museum.”

So You Want to Be a Socially Distanced Orchestra

New York Times, 6/16/2020: “Here is music that could safely be played by a reduced symphonic ensemble.”

Times Square remains ‘a ghost town’ after Phase 1 of reopening in New York City

amNY, 6/16/2020: “Even as some businesses are opening for the first time in about 100 days due to the COVID-19 pandemic, much of Times Square remains shuttered as both Broadway shows and restaurants await the ability to open under Phase 2 and Phase 3.”

UK’s Art Fund to Award \$2.5 Million in Coronavirus Relief for Cultural Institutions

Artforum, 6/16/2020: “The London-based charitable organization Art Fund has pledged \$2.5 million in grants for museums and galleries in the United Kingdom impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, in an effort to cushion the financial losses and expected drop in visitors and revenue as cultural organizations prepare to reopen. Nearly \$2 million have been allocated for the immediate needs of institutions. The funds will go toward collections and exhibitions, the development of digital skills and infrastructure, audience engagement initiatives and reopening costs, and staff support, which were identified as the four key areas of focus from the charity’s Covid-19 impact research, published in May.”

What Has Lockdown Meant for L.G.B.T.Q. Artists and Writers?

New York Times, 6/16/2020: “We asked eight to tell us about the work they are doing in the pandemic and to talk about what lies ahead.”

With Future Of Performing Arts Uncertain, Boston Foundation Anoints New Class Of Live Arts Boston Grantees

WBUR The Artery, 6/16/2020: “Rappers, singers, theater troupes, a comedian — in many ways, the 2020 cohort of Live Arts Boston (LAB) grantees looks much as it has in the past. Its 60 recipients represent a diverse set of artists working across a range of performance-oriented disciplines. Each was awarded a grant of up to \$15,000 to bring to fruition an original piece of work. Gifted with the ability to hire collaborators and pay for venues, previous grantees often took the opportunity to bring to life their most ambitious ideas. But the announcement comes at a moment when the future of the performing arts has never been more tenuous.”

In Paris, the Pompidou Centre prepares to reopen with one-way system and masks

Reuters, 6/16/2020: “The Pompidou Centre in Paris, home to Europe’s largest modern art collection, will be left 20 million euros out of pocket by the coronavirus crisis but its director Serge Lasvignes has a more pressing matter on his hands – how to reopen safely.”

Yale Rep cancels entire '20-21 season

Boston Globe, 6/16/2020: “One of nation’s top regional theaters cites the COVID-19 pandemic.”

From Lawn To Screen: Boston Symphony Takes Tanglewood Summer Music Festival Online

WBUR The Artery, 6/15/2020: “The Boston Symphony Orchestra’s sublime sounds will not waft over the rolling green grass at Tanglewood this summer because of the enduring coronavirus crisis. But in a bid to stay connected with audiences — while hoping to generate much-needed revenue — the BSO is taking its acclaimed, months-long music festival into the digital realm. The organization released details on Monday.”

How Years of Seclusion on a Mountaintop Trained Artist Terence Koh to Thrive in a World of Virtual Exhibitions and Lockdown Living

artnet news, 6/15/2020: “For Terence Koh, the artist formerly known as Asian Punk Boy and ‘the Naomi Campbell of the art world,’ the party ended a few years earlier, when, in 2014, he ‘retired’ from art and moved to a mountaintop in the Catskills. Koh gave up his cell phone, his performances with Lady Gaga, and his days getting ‘drunk and drugged’ in Miami—and now he has some words of wisdom for former colleagues who may be struggling with isolation and lost opportunities. ‘Living in the Catskills prepared me more than most people because I’m able to say, ‘OK, this is the situation and this is what life has brought you now,’ the artist tells Artnet News. ‘Life is always changing and always unpredictable.’”

Museums Embrace Art Therapy Techniques for Unsettled Times

New York Times, 6/15/2020: “Several institutions are preparing to reopen with an awareness of a new mission as people struggle with loss and unrest.”

Success as ‘virtual’ Aberdeen music festival is first in UK

The Press and Journal, 6/15/2020: “Hundreds of musicians from across the north-east have taken part in the first ever competitive online music festival to be held in the UK.”

The Only West End Show Still Standing

New York Times, 6/15/2020: “‘Horrible Histories’ was meant to be in the West End next month. It’s still happening, just in a castle parking lot 200 miles away.”

This violin maker used lockdown to make the perfect miniature violins

ClassicFM, 6/15/2020: “While some people have taken up baking in the last few months, or mastered at-home DIY, one luthier decided to continue her usual day job – but with a twist.”

Acting For Others raises more than £600,000 to support theatre workers

London Indoors, 6/15/2020: “Over £600,000 has been raised for the Acting For Others pandemic relief fund, thanks to streams including Fleabag and the Les Misérables staged concert. The money has been raised by more than 120 organisations and initiatives and will be distributed between 14 charities to support theatre workers affected by the coronavirus crisis.”

Arena Cinelounge Sunset To Be First Physical Movie Theater To Reopen In Los Angeles

Deadline, 6/15/2020: “As Los Angeles slowly reopens, Arena Cinelounge Sunset in Hollywood is stepping forward to be the first physical theater in the city to open its doors since the start of the coronavirus lockdown. The arthouse theater will reopen on June 19 with special engagements of *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* and *Babyteeth*. Arena Cinelounge is set to reopen and will be in full compliance with public health protocols. They will take important safety precautions such as a new air purification system, seat disinfecting between screenings, socially distanced seating and concessions specially packaged for contactless delivery.”

New York’s arts scene remains shut down indefinitely—can it evolve and survive?

National Geographic, 6/15/2020: “From theater and dance to comedy and concerts, a world of culture tries to digitally reinvent itself.”

Outdoor events business “on the brink” due to coronavirus, says industry association

NME, 6/15/2020: “The National Outdoor Events Association (NOEA) has warned that the festival and events industry is “on the brink” after the 2020 summer season was halted by COVID-19. Research conducted across NOEA’s membership of 480 event-based companies revealed the average loss to event businesses is £539,431 with over half suffering losses of £100,000 or more, according to Music Week. Three quarters of the companies surveyed have utilised the staff furlough scheme, while more than 65% are planning redundancies, and 51% of have said they will last until the end of 2020 without further support.”

Refund or donation: Which do most ticket holders to COVID-canceled shows choose?

Los Angeles Times, 6/15/2020: “With the cost of tickets ranging from a few dollars to a few hundred dollars, calling for ticket donations is a strategy many performing arts organizations are using to stay afloat amid coronavirus-related show cancellations and postponements. But are audiences actually donating tickets? And if so, what impact does that have on venues? The Times surveyed 18 performing arts organizations across L.A. to find out.”

Tomorrowland’s Online Festival Will Feature a Predictably Massive Group of Artists: See the Lineup

Billboard, 6/15/2020: “Earlier in June, Tomorrowland announced Tomorrowland Around the World, a sprawling online festival set to happen June 25-26. (These three days would have been the second weekend of the annual Belgian mega-festival.) Monday (June 15), the festival announced the lineup for the sprawling online event, and the group of participating artists is everything you’d expect from the world’s largest dance music festival.”

Disney-owned theaters? Masks with your ticket? Moviegoing could look quite different post-pandemic

USA Today, 6/14/2020: “We’re all wondering when we can go back to the multiplex again, as spikes in coronavirus cases, AMC Theatres’ financial struggles and pockets of cinemas letting audiences through their doors again have added to the mood of uncertainty around a grand reopening of movie theaters. But it also begs the question: What will they look like on the other side of COVID-19?”

Final curtain? How coronavirus might have killed off London’s West End

euronews, 6/14/2020: “It is an industry that makes hundreds of millions – attendances of 15.3 million people generated gross revenue of £798,994,920 in 2019 (and generated £133,165,820 of VAT for the UK Treasury) – but also costs a fortune to create, perform and run. But now the future of every level of that creation, performance and management has been thrown into doubt.”

Does Interactive Theater Work on Zoom? Two Theaters Switch on the Video.

Vulture, 6/13/2020: Helder Guimarães’s *The Present* at the Geffen Playhouse; Creation Theatre’s *The Time Machine*.

Art Basel’s Marc Spiegler: ‘The future of the art world is not digital’

Financial Times, 6/13/2020: “The fair’s global director on how the pandemic will change the art market — but also how it won’t.”

No longer singing the blues: Musicians cancel protest after city allows live music to return to Beale

Fox 13 Memphis, 6/12/2020: “A protest of a different kind was planned for Saturday in Memphis. Musicians who regularly played on Beale Street before COVID-19 brought music

to a grinding halt, planned to make their voices heard. They want live music back on Beale. Friday the city said live music is permitted, with a number of restrictions.”

‘If you destroy the arts, what is left?’ tenor Jonas Kaufmann’s message to political leaders

ClassicFM, 6/12/2020: “In a new interview with the Financial Times (FT), German tenor Jonas Kaufmann has spoken passionately about the dire need to protect our arts world. The opera star launched a petition with baritone friend Ludovic Tézier in late April, to support those working in the performing arts sector. The petition calls for ‘a Europe which [meets its] duty to preserve the most beautiful legacy of its own civilisation: art.”

A New York Comedy Club Tries to Bring Back Stand-Up

New York Times, 6/12/2020: “‘They just want to get onstage again,’ the co-owner of Stand Up NY said of the comics who performed at an invite-only event this week.”

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Hosted its Spirit Gala Online—and You Can Watch it Through June 18

Vogue, 6/12/2020: “Hosted last night on YouTube, the night raised funds for the Ailey company as well as the Equal Justice Initiative (a non-profit organization providing legal representation to the wrongly convicted and the disadvantaged). The night would bring a world premiere, archival footage of one of Mr. Ailey’s first-ever performances, and an expanded reimagining of Revelations. With cameos and kind words delivered by Ailey fans like Cynthia Erivo, Leslie Odom, Jr., Timothy Shriver (whose own daughter was a studio at the Ailey dance school), Angela Bassett, and more, it was a celebration of the dance company’s rich history and a moment of much-needed togetherness in honor of Black Lives Matter.”

Free Shakespeare on the Common's 'The Tempest' has been canceled

Boston Globe, 6/12/2020: "Due to COVID-19, the show will not go on for the first time since 1996."

How a Berlin Theater Will Enforce Social Distancing

Smithsonian Magazine, 6/12/2020: "The venue removed more than half of its seats to keep audience members safely separated."

L.A. County says museums can reopen. Museums say: Mmm, not so fast

Los Angeles Times, 6/12/2020: "Los Angeles County may have announced that museums can reopen as early as Friday, but of more than a dozen institutions responding to Times inquiries, not one said it was prepared to begin welcoming visitors so soon. Most won't open for weeks, if not months."

Leading the Van Gogh Museum Through a Future With No Tourists

New York Times, 6/12/2020: "Emilie Gordonker took over at the Amsterdam institution that attracts most of its visitors from abroad just months before the coronavirus lockdown began."

Lollapalooza 2020 organizers owe Chicago \$750K despite cancellation due to COVID-19 concerns

ABC 7 Chicago, 6/12/2020: "Lollapalooza may have been cancelled this year, but the music festival's organizers are still on the hook for \$750,000. It's part of their contract with the City of Chicago. The Chicago Park District told ABC7 that it's working with Lollapalooza promoter C3 Presents 'to fulfill the provisions of the agreement which include a Force Majeure clause.' The clause allows a company to depart from its original contract terms due to special circumstances that can't be reasonably controlled. 'Pursuant to this clause, C3

will pay the Chicago Park District \$750K,' a district spokesperson said. The funds will go toward neighborhood parks and programming, the spokesperson said."

Nearly 40% More Movie Theaters Open This Week, Including 15 in California

Variety, 6/12/2020: "The nation's moviegoing business is coming back to life following a three-month hiatus imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of locations open in North America as of Friday totals 714, including 275 drive-ins, according to Comscore. That's a gain of nearly 40% from a week ago when the total was 511."

Neither Big Nor Small, Music Ensembles Struggle in a Pandemic

New York Times, 6/12/2020: "Midsize ensembles may feel like families. But their members are generally freelancers, without compensation guarantees."

Royal Opera House returns to life as first live performance to take place tomorrow (starring real life couple)

Tatler, 6/12/2020: "The show must go on – and so it shall with a world premiere choreographed by Wayne McGregor to be streamed from Covent Garden direct to homes."

'Orchestras may not survive' coronavirus lockdown, top conductors warn

ClassicFM, 6/11/2020: "Leading conductors Sir Mark Elder and Sir Simon Rattle have penned an open letter, warning of the pandemic's devastating impact on UK orchestras."

COVID Theatre Closures Hit U.K. Harder Than U.S. and Canada, New Study Shows

American Theatre, 6/11/2020: "A new report from TRG Arts and Purple Seven finds that the loyalty of North American audiences, particularly subscribers, may be making the difference."

Art Basel to Display Over 4,000 Works in Online Viewing Rooms This June

Hypebeast, 6/11/2020: “Although its Swiss flagship fair is cancelled this year, Art Basel is getting ready to launch its June edition of Online Viewing Rooms. The international art organization previously launched its first virtual fair last March as a replacement for its Hong Kong installment due to COVID-19. The second digital presentation will see a lineup of 281 galleries from 35 countries across the globe. A total of 4,000 works from the Modern to post-war and contemporary periods will be presented online including paintings, sculptures, drawings, installation, and photography, as well as video and digital works.”

British Airways to sell art collection to raise cash

BBC News, 6/11/2020: “British Airways is selling some of its multi-million-pound art collection to raise cash to help it through the coronavirus pandemic. The collection includes art by Damien Hirst, Bridget Riley and Peter Doig, with one work believed to have been valued at more than £1m. It is understood at least 10 pieces have been identified for sale, although exactly which ones is unclear.”

Nightclub punters dance in chairs showing what future of clubbing could look like

Mirror, 6/11/2020: “Now, we’ve been given an insight into how clubs may run in the future – after one club in the Netherlands reopened its doors. It was more Sit -urday Night Fever for clubbers at Doornroosje, in Nijmegen, Gelderland, where people had to book for just a 20 minute slot.”

The Pandemic Closed Art Galleries’ Doors. But Who Said a Gallery Needs Four Walls and a Ceiling?

Time Magazine, 6/11/2020: “Now the pandemic has made the gallery even more inaccessible, at least temporarily, inspiring curators and creators to reimagine how art

might be shared. But while today's circumstances are new, artists' efforts to think beyond such restrictions are not."

What Will It Take To Save British Theatre?

British Vogue, 6/11/2020: "[W]ith the possibility of long-term closure, there is a growing realisation that without prompt government action, the whole theatre ecology is in danger of being destroyed. 'It's not too late for the government to support us in a meaningful way, but the clock will run out in the early part of July,' says Julian Bird, chief executive of The Society of London Theatre (SOLT). 'We need... definitive answers. Otherwise the damage to our world-leading status will take years to come back from.'"

When will theatres and music venues reopen in the UK?

ClassicFM, 6/11/2020: "The government's plan suggests 4 July as the earliest possible date theatres will be given the green light. Even then, the plan caveats that 'some venues which are, by design, crowded and where it may prove difficult to enact distancing may still not be able to reopen safely at this point'."

Coachella and Stagecoach Canceled as Officials Fear Virus Resurgence

New York Times, 6/10/2020: "The popular music festivals in Southern California had been postponed in March, with hopes of being held in the fall."

New York Philharmonic Cancels Fall Season

New York Times, 6/10/2020: "The lost performances will cost the orchestra approximately \$9 million in ticket revenue."

When the Dancers Have to Miss the Last Dance

New York Times, 6/10/2020: "Their final bows were snatched by a pandemic. For three retiring Alvin Ailey dances and a principal from American Ballet Theater, the show can't go on (except, you know, online)."

A Rising Demand For Video Art Redefines The Gallery Business

Forbes, 6/9/2020: "Video allegedly killed the radio star. When it came to art, video got a different idea: become the star itself. Video Art is experiencing a breakthrough which has started even before coronavirus quarantined culture online."

Bucking Cancellations, Salzburg Festival Has Plans for August

New York Times, 6/9/2020: "Classical music and opera's starriest and most important annual event will go forward, in modified form."

Galleries to Open in the Hamptons. It's Not Business as Usual.

New York Times, 6/9/2020: "Masks will be required and there will be limited or no staff for some in-person viewing experiences."

How Indie Theaters Are Reimagining The Moviegoing Experience

Huffpost, 6/9/2020: "During the coronavirus pandemic, art house theaters and independent movie distributors are cultivating virtual viewings for their audiences."

The inside story of the first bold bet to get you back to the movie theater

Fast Company, 6/8/2020: "Why the startup movie studio behind the Russell Crowe thriller 'Unhinged' is betting it can make a splash 4th of July weekend on the end of social distancing."

The Straits Times

The Straits Times, 6/8/2020: “Some performing arts competitions have gone online as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The annual Steinway Youth Piano Competition, for instance, was conducted online last month. The competitors’ performances were recorded from their homes and livestreamed on the website of piano company Steinway and Sons. Competitors took the chance to dress up in their performance attire, from sparkling gowns to suits, and confidently pulled off their rehearsed pieces.”

New York Times

New York Times, 6/8/2020: “Young collectors are still viewing and buying pieces, but they’re spending far less time and money than their older counterparts once did. That’s a problem for the industry.”

BBC News

BBC News, 6/8/2020: “A cut in public funding has left the arts sector more exposed to the threat of Covid-19, new figures suggest. The latest Arts Index, published annually, showed public investment in arts per head of the population fell by 35% in the last decade. However, earned income by arts organisations from things like box office ticket sales increased by 47%. The government said it was working with the arts sector directly on how to reopen safely and plan for the future. The Arts Index is published by The National Campaign for the Arts (NCA), and acts as a snapshot report of the health of England’s arts and culture.”

World Economic Forum

World Economic Forum, 6/8/2020: “During this lockdown period audiences have become more used to participating...[and] to actually getting involved. There has been more collective action.’ That was the assessment of Es Devlin, a London-based artist and stage designer, on how the COVID-19 pandemic may have forever changed the way audiences engage with culture. Devlin’s remarks came during a virtual Town Hall of the World

Economic Forum’s Arts and Culture Global Solidarity Network on 28 May, focused around the theme what can we do now that we could not do before.”

NewsAnyway

NewsAnyway, 6/8/2020: “Many across the world are waiting for their offices to open up so they can return back to one. But one Canary Wharf based art dealers, ME Art, have made the decision to abandon its immediate plans to open a physical art gallery in Canary Wharf all-together to focus on building and growing digitally.”

London Indoors

London Indoors, 6/8/2020: “For the last month, Oliver Dowden’s been pushing to get live Premier League football back on the pitch. Now he has a confession to make. ‘It’s rather ironic that I spend a lot of time talking about football ... given that I have never been a huge football fan.’ Many politicians wouldn’t be brave enough to admit it — especially if they were the Cabinet minister in charge of sport. They’d fake an obsession with a famous team. He’s different. ‘I support my local team, Boreham Wood FC,’ he says, loyally — currently playing somewhere in the National League — but says sport is not the bit of the job he likes most. What is? ‘Arts and culture have always been a real passion of mine.’ That’s lucky, since right now the Culture Secretary may be all that stands in the way of an artistic Armageddon.”

artnet news

artnet news, 6/8/2020: “In the weeks after museums across the United States closed their doors to preserve public health in March, a steady drumbeat of layoffs and furlough announcements plagued the sector. Among those making dramatic cutbacks was the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, which laid off or furloughed some 60 percent of its more than 500-person staff. Now, as the museum prepares to enter a new fiscal year in July, it is making another round of cutbacks, laying off 55 people from a variety of departments last week.”

Wired

Wired, 6/8/2020: “How readily can playing instruments transmit the virus? As researchers investigate, musical ensembles prepare for the show to go on.”

Lonely Planet

Lonely Planet, 6/8/2020: “The world is slowly reopening in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, and many people are wondering how entertainment venues will deal with the requirement for social distancing going forward. One theatre in Berlin has removed 500 of its 700 seats, and the images show what we might expect when we attend cultural events in the future.”

New York Times

New York Times, 6/7/2020: “New Zealand’s capital has had an extra buzz of excitement over the past week since Hollywood director James Cameron and his crew flew in to film the much-anticipated sequel of the epic science-fiction film ‘Avatar’. The film is among a handful of productions kicking off in New Zealand as it begins to open up after containing the novel coronavirus, and looks to its film industry to give its battered economy a boost.”

New York Times

New York Times, 6/7/2020: “Some readers are primed to take their seats, masks on, but more are hesitant: ‘My love of theater is not so important to me that I risk dying for it.’”

Art Basel Cancels September Fair

New York Times, 6/6/2020: “Galleries had pushed back, saying coronavirus concerns would prevent visitors from attending the prestigious art gathering.”

Artists Quarantine With Their Art Collections

Hyperallergic, 6/6/2020: “With vast art mausoleums now shuttered, we artists increasingly occupy the same virtual space, deepening our exchanges by sharing readings, conversations, and Zoom studio visits.”

Coronavirus: Two-metre rule ‘must be relaxed for musicians’

BBC News, 6/6/2020: “The government is being urged to ease social distancing for musicians, so more of them can get back performing and recording. Musicians’ Union leader Horace Trubridge told the BBC they could play ‘side by side’ to lessen the risk of spreading coronavirus. The 2m rule was ‘overkill’ at a ‘bleak’ time for his members, he added. The government said it welcomed ‘creative and innovative’ ideas to help the UK’s ‘brilliant’ musicians. Coronavirus means theatres, pubs, clubs and other indoor music venues will be closed for the foreseeable future, while promoters have cancelled all the UK’s main festivals.”

AMC Theatres Possible Bankruptcy “Too Close to Call,” Analyst Says

The Hollywood Reporter, 6/5/2020: “‘We believe AMC has the wherewithal to remain a going concern,’ until October, Imperial Capital analyst David Miller said in an investors note as he raised the exhibitor’s stock price target.”

California Says Film and TV Production Can Resume as Early as June 12

New York Times, 6/5/2020: “Film and TV cameras can start rolling in California as soon as June 12, state officials said as they approved new guidelines to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus on sets.”

Good News, Music Industry — American Jobs Are Storming Back as States Reopen

Digital Music News, 6/5/2020: “With American jobs storming back as states continue to reopen following widespread lockdown measures stemming from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, artists and music industry professionals – who have been hit especially hard by the crisis – stand to gain.”

Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles Times, 6/5/2020: “Bruce Munro’s artsy superbloom of thousands of solar-powered stemmed lights has wowed visitors in a Paso Robles field for more than a year. The art installation, which had to close temporarily in March because of the coronavirus pandemic, will reopen June 12 with new social distancing rules. Visitors now will take a one-way path through the 15-acre outdoor art installation ‘Field of Light at Sensorio,’ according to a recent statement. Group size will be limited to six people, and visitors will be required to buy timed tickets in advance, practice social distancing and wear face coverings.”

New York Times

New York Times, 6/5/2020: “The publishing industry’s annual event, normally staged at the cavernous Javits Center, moved some programming online and reached a big digital crowd.”

How coronavirus transformed the summer blockbuster movie season

Quartz, 6/5/2020: “Now that the dust is settling, Quartz compared what the 2020 summer blockbuster calendar should have looked like to what it is now with all the postponements. Here is the amended 2020 summer movie schedule, with all important changes noted.”

Priceless artworks stranded. Blockbuster exhibitions delayed. Inside museums’ massive game of shuffle

The Globe and Mail, 6/5/2020: “The queens of Egypt are stuck in Kansas City and the mummies linger in Montreal. Meanwhile, a posse of Picassos that should be assembling in Toronto is still scattered around the globe. The pandemic not only closed museums, it also ripped their exhibition schedules to shreds. As they cautiously move toward reopening, they have to consider how quickly the public may return – and what shows they have left to entice visitors back.”

We Asked 'Hope' Artist Shepard Fairey to Break Down 6 Public-Health Posters to Explain What Works—and What Doesn't

artnet news, 6/5/2020: "We spoke to the artist about campaigns from around the world."

Art And Sculpture Market to receive overwhelming hike in Revenues by COVID-19 Crisis 2018 – 2025

Cole Market Research, 6/5/2020: "Art and sculpture market is changing from customary collectibles outlook to an investment outlook and various organizations have begun mutual funds meant for art and sculptures. These mutual funds organizations invest their client's capital for about four years and put capital into purchasing gainful fine arts. These works of art are then sold to acquire generous returns for money invested. Thus augmented attention to art like a substitute investment has expanded the deals in art and sculptures market globally, as the spending power has by and large expanded."

As #CanadaPerforms emergency relief fund wraps up, it's time to ask: Did #CanadaEnjoy too?

The Globe and Mail, 6/5/2020: "The National Arts Centre and Facebook Canada ended its #CanadaPerforms emergency relief program on May 31 – but the hashtag will live on well into the future. #CanadaPerforms, which gave out \$1,000 grants for live-streamed events as varied as concerts, theatrical performances and book launches, has now been re-envisaged as a two-year partnership between the Ottawa-based arts centre with a national mandate and the social media giant 'that will explore the future of digital engagement and live-streaming in the performing arts.' What exactly does that mean? The way Heather Gibson, lead programmer for #CanadaPerforms, explains it, the NAC now has a 'fifth stage' that exists online – one to which Facebook Canada has already committed another \$500,000.

Can Ballet Come Alive Online?

New York Times, 6/5/2020: “American Ballet Theater and New York City Ballet offer virtual seasons. The reigning screen gem: Balanchine’s ‘Diamonds.’ It’s like you were there.”

Coronavirus: BBC extends Culture in Quarantine

The Stage, 6/5/2020: “The BBC has extended its Culture in Quarantine programme, with streamed performances of opera that has been cancelled during the pandemic.”

Coronavirus: Providence stages cash call for West End theatre giant Ambassador

Sky News, 6/5/2020: “The owner of some of the West End’s most historic theatres is staging a £50m cash injection into the business amid uncertainty about the recovery prospects for Britain’s entertainment industry after the COVID-19 pandemic. Sky News has learnt that Providence Equity Partners has agreed to inject the sum in new equity into Ambassador Theatre Group (ATG) to help it survive the shutdown of its venues, which include London’s Lyceum and Savoy theatres.”

How a project to honor artist Felix Gonzalez-Torres devolved into an Instagram stunt

Los Angeles Times, 6/5/2020: “Along with many others, I was being invited via email to participate in a collective recreation of a 1990 installation, ‘Untitled’ (Fortune Cookie Corner), by the late Cuban artist Felix Gonzalez-Torres. The original piece consists of a mound of fortune cookies, generally piled on the floor against a wall or in a corner. The public is then invited to consume the art. As visitors take the cookies, the pile is continuously replenished. In its original guise, ‘Untitled’ employed approximately 10,000 cookies. . . . But the idea of being asked — er, ‘invited’ — to recreate these pieces in the middle of this pandemic (and in the same month I, like countless other U.S. workers, found myself on a partial furlough) strikes me as tone deaf at best and foolhardy at worst.”

Insurers hit by art-world class action lawsuit as coronavirus crisis bites

The Art Newspaper, 6/5/2020: “UK art organisations are preparing to file a class-action lawsuit against insurers, accusing them of failing to pay out as the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) continues to decimate their incomes. The group of more than 50 claimants—none of whom wanted to be named—includes major contemporary art galleries, museums and sole traders, with claims ranging from around £50,000 to £35m.”

Local Theater Is Acting Up A Storm — On Your Laptop

WBUR – The Artery, 6/5/2020: “Though the city is slowly reopening, the pandemic continues to dictate when we’ll be able to enjoy theater without fear. Will there be Shakespeare on Boston Common this summer? Will there be theater anywhere this fall? Given the uncertainty, local theater artists have taken their craft online with everything from light-hearted domestic videos to readings about the killing of George Floyd.”

Music festivals face devastating blow from coronavirus

Financial Times, 6/5/2020: “Pandemic puts events in doubt with revenues down and state schemes failing to help.”

New Dates for Art-World Events Postponed Due to COVID-19

Artsy, 6/5/2020: “Over the past four months, COVID-19 has radically changed the art industry’s calendar. Art fairs, auctions, and biennials across the globe have all been cut short, postponed, or rescheduled to new dates due to the global pandemic. As parts of the world begin to reopen from quarantine in phases, or as art-world organizations adapt their plans to make use of digital technologies, we have collected a calendar of upcoming events that we will continue to update as new information and dates are confirmed.”

Sam Mendes calls on Netflix and Amazon to share 'Covid-19 windfall' with theatre

The Guardian, 6/5/2020: "Bumper takings for TV streaming services should be used to support performing arts industries, says Mendes as he outlines other rescue measures."

Seoul closes museums as South Korea sees spike in new COVID-19 cases

blooloop, 6/5/2020: "Seoul has closed public institutions once again, including museums, churches and art galleries, as South Korea reported a spike in new COVID-19 cases."

UK arts funders unlock crisis grants after coronavirus—but at what cost?

The Art Newspaper, 6/5/2020: "Unrestricted money from public and private sources is helping to keep hard-hit organisations running, but capital projects could suffer."

Experts: Spotlight on art is one upside of lockdowns

Futurity, 6/4/2020: "One benefit of this extended stay-at-home period during the COVID-19 pandemic is a spotlight on the importance of arts in everyday life, experts argue."

MAKE MUSIC NEW YORK To Go Virtual In The Time Of Covid-19

Broadway World, 6/4/2020: "Make Music New York, the one-of-a-kind festival of music made by and for New Yorkers and held each June 21, will return for its 14th consecutive year despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 crisis, organizers announced today. In response to the pandemic, Make Music New York has developed creative virtual and social distanced ways for anyone to join in the daylong musical free-for-all and flagship event of Make Music Day in the U.S., which is being held in over 85 cities and the entire states of Connecticut, Vermont, Wisconsin and Hawaii. Make Music New York will further showcase the power of music to inspire, uplift and connect people during these difficult times."

The first big art show of the covid era is a vision of the future

The Economist, 6/4/2020: “The Raphael exhibition in Rome is stunning. But how many people will see it?”

David Byrne’s American Utopia Re-Scheduled Dates On Sale Now

uInterview, 6/4/2020: “The Broadway musical American Utopia from former Talking Heads front man, David Byrne, has tickets on sale for performances on Broadway at the end of the year. This run will be the show’s second at the Hudson Theatre on Broadway, after its incredibly successful limited run in 2019. This run will also be limited, as it’s set to run for 17 weeks, from September 18, 2020 through January 17, 2021.”

West End Shows Extend Performance Suspension Through August 2; No Official Return Date Set

Broadway Buzz, 6/4/2020: “As the coronavirus pandemic continues, the Society of London Theatre (SOLT) has announced a further delay to the reopening of shows in the West End. Initially set to be shut down through April 26 and extended several times, most recently to June 28, all productions will now stay on hold through August 2. An official return date has not been announced.”

Cinema chain AMC warns it may not survive the pandemic

ABC News, 6/3/2020: “Movie theater chain AMC warned Wednesday that it may not survive the coronavirus pandemic, which has shuttered its theaters and led film studios to explore releasing more movies directly to viewers over the internet.”

Coronavirus: Is this a way of getting festivals going again?

BBC News, 6/3/2020: “If you’re missing festivals, the boss of Reading & Leeds and Wireless reckons he has a solution to make sure they go ahead ‘as normal’ in 2021. Melvin Benn, managing director of Festival Republic, wants to link his events with compulsory

coronavirus testing. Put simply, a negative Covid-19 test would be the key to getting you into a show.”

Could There Be a More Difficult Time to Become an Arts Leader?

New York Times, 6/3/2020: “As many cultural institutions are dealing with layoffs and furloughs, some are appointing new leaders who face a whole new set of challenges.”

- **Israeli museums reopen with a bang after COVID-19**

AL-Monitor, 6/3/2020: “Several museums in Israel are reopening their doors this week, after having been closed for more than two months due to the coronavirus outbreak.”

Italians Rediscover Their Museums, With No Tourists in Sight

New York Times, 6/3/2020: “As Italy gradually reopens its museums after a three-month lockdown, locals are enjoying treasures long lost to visiting hordes.”

Music fans rejoice as the first festival since lockdown sells out in five minutes – but there’s a catch

Daily Mail, 6/3/2020: “An outback music festival scheduled to go ahead after the lockdown has sold out in five minutes. Organisers for the Birdsville Big Red Bash released the first round of refund tickets for its 2021 festival at 9am on Tuesday and by 9.05am the event had sold out. The festival will be the first in Australia after the COVID lockdown. . . . The Birdsville Big Red Bash is the most remote music festival in the world, located on the edge of the Simpson Desert against a backdrop of rolling red sand dunes. The 2021 all-ages event is now scheduled to run from July 6 to July 8 in front of a 40-metre-tall sand dune which gives the festival its name, ‘Big Red’.”

Studios Debate When to Sell Movies to Streaming Services During Coronavirus

Variety, 6/3/2020: “Studios are increasingly concerned about the logjam of films expected in 2021. All that competition will cut into potential profit margins, and it’s making it difficult to find attractive slots on the calendar to launch a film. ‘We are like those oil tankers off Long Beach with all this oil and nowhere to offload it,’ says one top studio chief.”

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Tate Modern and Tate Britain Plan August Reopening, With Significant Drop in Attendance

ARTnews, 6/3/2020: “The Tate museum network, which comprises institutions in London, Liverpool, and St. Ives, was one of the first British art entities to temporarily close in March amid the coronavirus pandemic. Now, Tate Modern and Tate Britain have revealed plans to reopen in early August, barring an increase in cases in the United Kingdom. In an interview with the Art Newspaper, Tate director Maria Balshaw said that the institutions are expecting 30 percent of their pre-pandemic visitors numbers. That figure is representative of the number of people the museums can accommodate while adhering to social distancing practices, though Balshaw added that she believes ‘demand might be higher’ than this estimate reflects.”

At Drive-In Disco, It ‘Feels Like Saturday Again,’ Even Without a Dance Floor

New York Times, 6/2/2020: “To stop the spread of the coronavirus, nightclubs are still shuttered as Europe emerges from a lockdown. But one German club has found another way to host a party. Honk if you’re having a good time.”

Crowds Define Opera. They’re Also Keeping It From Returning.

New York Times, 6/2/2020: “As the Metropolitan Opera announces that it will remain closed through the year, our critic reflects on the chorus scenes he will miss the most.”

Online Art Viewing Is Finally Being Embraced—But Does That Make It More Accessible?

Observer, 6/2/2020: “Artists have always made use of new technology—whether print media, Daguerreotypes, or chisels—to enhance their practice, realise new ideas, and broaden their audience. The internet is no different. In 1974, Nam June Paik imagined a “broadband communication network” which was, effectively, the internet as we know it today. However, despite our ability to connect and share ideas across borders as Paik envisioned, there are many ways in which online communication and communities continue to fall short.”

SFMOMA Announces Layoffs and Reduced Schedules for 55 Employees

KQED, 6/2/2020: “In a public statement issued Tuesday evening, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art announced the layoff or reduced schedules of 55 staff members, to take effect, an employee confirmed, on June 8. This number includes both union and non-union employees, joining the 131 on-call employees SFMOMA laid off April 8. The latest phase of layoffs will impact departments across the museum.”

The Sacrosanct Endowment? Not Anymore for Some Arts Groups

New York Times, 6/2/2020: “Some cultural organizations, staggered by the financial upheaval caused by the coronavirus pandemic, are dipping heavily into their endowments. Others are thinking about it.”

Coronavirus: RSC postpones performances and events

BBC News, 6/2/2020: “The Royal Shakespeare Company has postponed or cancelled planned performances and events due to the coronavirus crisis.”

How Europe’s art world is welcoming back visitors

BBC News, 6/2/2020: “Some of Europe’s best known art museums are reopening after closing in March for the Covid-19 pandemic but it will be far from business as usual. For most of these museums and galleries, it will be a matter of limiting visitor numbers, intensifying cleaning procedures and insisting all tickets be bought online in advance.”

Performing Arts Center of MetroWest Announces Summer Theatre Program

Framingham Source, 6/2/2020: “The Performing Arts Center of MetroWest (PAC) is pleased to announce their newly creatively re-envisioned Summer Theater program ‘A Virtual Tribute to Broadway through the Decades’, to comply with smart Covid 19 practices while exploring the exciting possibilities for education and performance via online platforms.”

Small auction house won’t let the coronavirus stop the bidding

DW, 6/2/2020: “Selling rare books, paintings and photography in times of stay-at-home orders and social distancing is not easy. German auction house Bassenge is nonetheless charging ahead and bringing in buyers.”

When will cinemas, theatres and museums re-open?

The Telegraph, 6/2/2020: “The latest lockdown update suggests that arts and cultural venues must operate a ‘behind closed doors’ strategy or stay closed beyond July.”

“Unaffordable” 90-Day Theatrical Window Is History As Leverage Tilts Towards Studios Post-Pandemic

Deadline, 6/1/2020: “Studios look set to gain the upper hand in skirmishes with exhibition over windowing as trends during the COVID-19 pandemic extend into the future with mid-range films generating the \$50-\$100 million range the most at risk of dwindling theatrical runs, according to a leading Wall Street analyst.”

40% of Chinese Theaters Could Permanently Close Due to Coronavirus

Observer, 6/1/2020: “Movie theaters in the country have largely remained closed since late January. If exhibitors do manage to reopen this month, which is the goal, the box office is still reportedly looking at a 66 percent plummet from last year, equivalent to roughly \$6 billion. That total could climb significantly if a new survey from the China Film Association published by the South China Morning Post is accurate.”

Andrew Lloyd Webber offers Palladium for trial of social distancing measures to get West End theatres back up and running

London Indoors, 6/1/2020: “As part of the effort to bring the West End back to life, Andrew Lloyd-Webber has offered the use of the 2,295-seater London Palladium near Oxford Circus to trial and test technology to make a night at the theatre safe.”

Art Travel: Here Are 10 Top Post Lockdown Exhibitions In Europe

Forbes, 6/1/2020: “Museums Europe-wide are gradually reopening, with some top post lockdown art exhibitions underway or planned to to map into your travel diaries: From Raphael in Rome to Goya in Basel.”

As more Quebec artists get back to work, province announces \$250M for cultural sector

CBC, 6/1/2020: “In a bid to revitalize Quebec’s cultural sector, the provincial government announced Monday that it is investing an extra \$250 million to encourage Quebec’s creative professionals and artists to start producing again.”

Box Office Will Plunge 50% Due to Coronavirus Closures, Analyst Predicts

Variety, 6/1/2020: “Movie theater closures and the uncertainty created by COVID-19 will have a devastating impact on the box office, according to a new note from research company MoffettNathanson. The Wall Street analyst firm predicts that revenues from ticket sales will be cut in half, falling from \$11.4 billion in 2019 to \$5.5 billion in 2020. That’s a 52% plunge, and it’s a drop that could be even steeper if cinemas don’t reopen in July and if summer blockbusters such as ‘Tenet’ and ‘Mulan’ that are supposed to debut that month get pushed back deeper into the year.”

Broadway On Demand Postpones Tony Awards Celebration Due to George Floyd Protests

Billboard, 6/1/2020: “First the Tonys were postponed. Now the show that was going to fill in for the Tonys is being postponed. . . . The postponement is linked to the ongoing protests and unrest in the wake of the death last week of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police.”

Can circuses survive the COVID-19 crisis?

DW, 6/1/2020: “Circuses are among the cultural enterprises particularly affected by the COVID-19 restrictions. Small, long-established family businesses are struggling to survive — and even global giant Cirque du Soleil is suffering.”

Classical music concerts without audiences streamed live

4 News, 6/1/2020: “Like all the UK’s concert halls, London’s famous classical music venue The Wigmore Hall has been firmly closed during pandemic. But today the award-winning pianist Stephen Hough was allowed in to lift the lockdown in the first of a series of live concerts. There was no audience in the building but there were plenty of eager ears for his Bach and Schuman recital which was streamed live on the internet.”

Ticket Company TodayTix Rebrands, Saves Theater Seats for Frontline Workers

Cheddar, 6/1/2020: “Though Broadway will remain dark for the time being while New York City battles the COVID-19 outbreak, theater fans are looking forward to the day doors open. When they do, more seats will be filled with frontline workers who made that possible. TodayTix, a digital ticketing platform for theatrical experiences, has rebranded as TomorrowTix and wants to give back in a way that is authentic to their brand. The company is saving 1,000 of the best seats for essential workers when theater returns. The mission is called Save A Seat Fund.”

Coronavirus shutdown puts pressure on Cleveland’s smaller arts groups but also sparks creativity and opportunity

Cleveland.com, 6/1/2020: “Performing arts organizations in Cleveland aren’t all waging the same battle these days.”

Debbie Allen Is Throwing a Massive Dance-a-thon—and You're Invited

Pointe, 6/1/2020: “In this global economic crisis, it sometimes feels like the plight of dancers has been largely ignored. So Debbie Allen is on a mission to change that. ‘They don’t list dance and the arts as essential,’ she says, ‘but we are! We give people more joy and hope than almost anything.’ To spread that joy and hope—and raise some sorely needed funds—Allen is putting on a 12-hour digital dance-a-thon on Saturday, June 13, called Dance To The Music. Along with her co-host, choreographer JaQuel Knight, Allen will be livestreaming from 12 pm to 12 am Pacific, sharing impromptu performances from top dancers, inspirational conversations with celebrities, dance classes with major choreographers, spotlights on studios around the country, and DJ sets that will get us all moving together.

How Actors Can Prepare for Life After Coronavirus

Backstage, 6/1/2020: “While projects across mediums have come to an essential standstill in the heat of the coronavirus pandemic, award winning theater casting director Julia Flores recently sat down with Backstage as part of its ongoing video programming, The Slate, to answer questions from actors on how to further their career, even in the current global climate.”

How ‘Phantom of the Opera’ Survived the Pandemic

New York Times, 6/1/2020: “The musical’s world tour, now in Seoul, weathered a cast outbreak to become perhaps the only major show running. Can theater learn from its example?”

Lessons From China’s First Physical Art Fair Since Covid-19: The Awkwardness of Taking Art Online

Radii, 6/1/2020: “So what did the first post-Covid-19 ‘art fair’ in China look like? With the involvement of 20 galleries, two non-profit art organizations, and public art projects, on the ground the event saw people ‘seeking reflection and inspiration in the midst of a

pandemic,' according to the Financial Times' Yuan Yang. But in an attempt to further their reach while China's borders remains mostly closed, Gallery Weekend Beijing also developed a whole suite of talks and increased access to works online. This highlighted many of the issues involved with attempting to combine an offline art fair with people's new online reality."

Museum Of Fine Arts Houston Director Explains Unique Mix Of Factors Which Lead To Reopening

Forbes, 6/1/2020: "Starting with May 1, we went into high gear with weekly meetings to assess what protocols we would implement and make sure we had everything in place—decals, posters, stanchions, sanitizer, masks, temperature scanners—it was only once we had everything on the premises that we felt we could schedule a date to reopen,' MFAH Director Gary Tinterow told Forbes.com.

Music workforce faces 'financial ruin' without freelance support scheme

ClassicFM, 6/1/2020: "On Friday, the body representing UK music professionals called on the government to extend the 'urgent lifeline' of their freelance support scheme. Now they've extended it by one final grant. If the support scheme for self-employed workers is not extended beyond the end of May, many working in the music sector will be placed in considerable financial difficulty."

NYC's Metropolitan Opera artists face uncertain future due to coronavirus lockdown

New York Daily News, 6/1/2020: "Hundreds of part-time and full-time singers, directors, dancers, musicians, stagehands and supportive staff members have been out of work for over eight weeks due to the pandemic. While the chorus is scheduled to resume rehearsals July 27 to prepare for the fall season, many members wonder whether that too will be postponed."

Reopening of Parks and Theaters Vital for Disney Stock

24/7 Wall Street, 6/1/2020: “With most businesses of The Walt Disney Company (NYSE: DIS) drastically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the questions of how and when various units will return to operation are vital for the company, its bottom line and its stock price.”

The Metropolitan Opera Cancels All Fall Performances

New York Times, 6/1/2020: “Many artists have not been paid since March at the company, which hopes to return on New Year’s Eve after its longest interruption in over a century.”