

SCRIOBH 7 - CONFINEMENT DOSSIER - 2020

"The artist always precedes the psychoanalysis" J. Lacan

In times of confinement and restriction of social interaction, we invited several artists from a diversity of fields to tell us about their experiences during the confinement measures at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. We put to them the following questions:

Q1 - *What is your experience, as an artist, of the impossibility to carry out cultural and artistic events 'in the flesh'? What is different when the audience / spectator is 'virtual'?*

Q2 - *In your particular form of art, what are the effects of the exclusion of the body in the encounter with the body of the other, i.e. what is different / new?
Can you relate this to the notion of 'presence' (can you -as an artist- do without physical presence?)*

We aim at learning from them, since we believe that their experiences and know-how can contribute to our thinking about subjectivity and about the analytic encounter.

P A B L O B O B B I O

Pablo Bobbio Ph.D is a Visual Artist and Photographer. He resides in Houston and continues his private practice and his work in Visual Art (painting and photography), and searching continuously at the field of Psychoanalysis.

Authorized to represent the Accademia Carrara di Belle Arti of Bergamo, Italy, in U.S.A. Since 1985, Pablo has taught different courses and seminars on "The Language of Change", in centers and art schools in Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and the U.S.A.

He has presented thirty-eight one artist shows in Argentina, Germany, Brazil, Yugoslavia, U.S.A., Uruguay, Spain, Finland, Mexico, Canada, Chile, Cuba, and Italy. Pablo had made one artist shows at the local art galleries: Sicardi Gallery, New Gallery, etc.

Author and director, the performance on "Artaud" at Commerce Street Studios. In 2011 he had made "WAR 30 Photos - 30 Writers" with the participation of one hundred nine writers and poets from thirty-seven countries, inspired by Pablo's photomontages.

Author of the project: "20 In - 20 Out" with the prisoners and the exonerates of the dead row in the USA, with emphasis in the state of Texas. Also "Trouble Minds" portraits of psychotic patients taken in Brazil in 2015. In 2017 Pablo's travels in India are the source of the portfolio "Portraits of India: Varanasi" and "Ephimerus". At present Pablo is working on the new series "Maya" and "Haiku" for the future art show "Inhabitants of Pain" at Vermeer Gallery, in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2019.

His formal education includes a Doctor in Behavioral Science (Ph.D) with a minor in Art Counseling from the USA, Master of Science of Psychology (MA) from Brazil, and a Master in Fine Arts, (MFA) with a minor in Social Psychology, from Argentina. Currently he is the director of TAO Therapy and Art Organization, dedicated to the research of human language through art and psychology. He is Chairman, Visiting Professor, Full Professor and lecturer at various academic institutions in the U.S. and abroad.

You can read more about Pablo's exhibitions, fine art and other works on his website.

For myself as an artist, I place little importance on the cultural or artistic events that occur after an artwork is “completed.” I say “completed,” because I believe that no artwork is ever truly finished, it is simply abandoned.

Art is a process of self-knowledge and realization; I could paint or photograph the same subject my entire life and each portrayal would be different.

The artist, regardless of a space “in the flesh” or virtually, continues to be able to carry out these so-called “events” because they occur within him or herself.

There is no necessity of other people to be able to continue the process of creating.

People will be able to ascribe the meaning to a work whether they view it physically or virtually because they will create the missing links inside their minds that allow them to make the most sense of what is in front of them.



As Lacan says, the real is unrepresentable; none of us knows exactly what is real. We as artists strive to continuously create the reality that we construct within our minds, just as our audience will take their constructs to form a conclusion within theirs.

For this purpose, the need for physical spaces is moot; the possibility to continue to create new realities will continue, regardless of the spaces that we occupy. This is, ultimately, the new normal that we've found ourselves in during this time.

We continue to attempt to create still unrepresentable realities to adjust to and make sense of the situation around us that not only changes what we've established as "normality," but to fill the emptiness that exists within each of us.

The art I attempt to create fills a void inside of me, while those that interact with it fill the voids inside of themselves.



Art: Hara Kiri
