

Dear RU Community and friends,

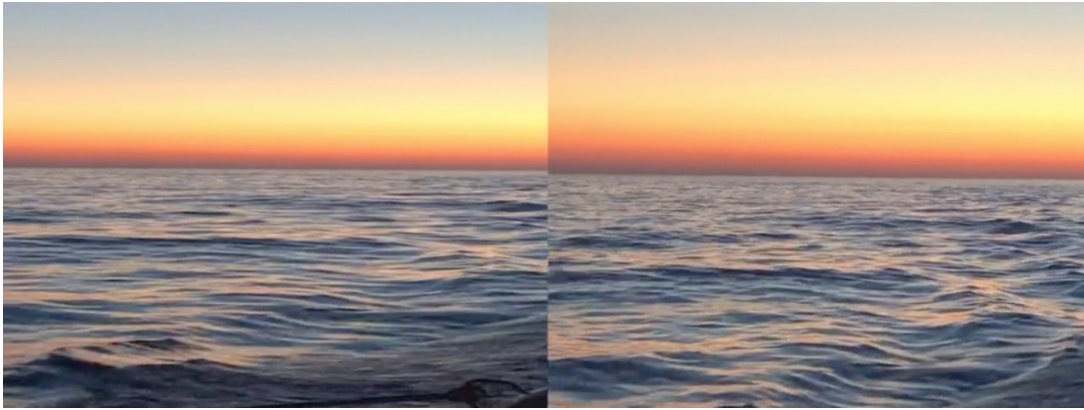
We hope this finds you safe and well as we enter week #11...

Please read on for RU's artwork of the week, RU-Community happenings, COVID-19 resources, ways to help, and RU's weekly staff recommendation for inspiring and practical stimuli.

Take care,
The RU Team

Artwork of the Week

Untitled, 2020, is a collaborative crowdsourced video project organized by RU artist [Mashaal Alsaie](#) (2020, Bahrain). Bringing together an artistic community separated by COVID-19, the video is an aggregate of over 50 voice clippings and video footage that Alsaie weaved together with music by Kuwaiti-based DJ and creative Aisha A, who produced the track from crowdsourced audio clips gathered from friends and family. Watch the video [here](#).



Untitled (detail), 2020, Video. Courtesy: Mashaël Alsaie.

RU Community News & Happenings

Tuesday, June 2, 11am CET (5am EST)

Press Conference: **THE INVISIBLE BANANA** or how to make visible the artificiality of the art market and Coronavirus and the art of tomorrow.

Register [here](#).

The "invisible banana" is an information-work by RU artist **Fred Forest** (2011, France) that constitutes a demonstration of the opacity of the art market, and an offensive against the commercial and institutional conditioning of which contemporary art is victim. Born in 1933 in Mascara, Algeria, Forest is a French new media artist who works with video, photography, the printed press, mail, radio, television, telephone, telematics, and the internet in a wide range of public formats that explore both the ramifications and potential of media space. He was a co-founder of both the Sociological Art Collective (1974) and the Aesthetics of Communication Movement (1982).

Speakers: Fred Forest, Artist; Alain-Dominique Perrin, Collector, President of the Fondation Cartier and President of the Jeu de Paume, Paris; Juliette Bompont, Director Association Mains d'œuvres, Saint-Ouen; and art critics Jean-Jacques Gay and Paul Ardenne. Moderator: Christophe Pouilly.

coculture, founded by RU artist **Khaled Barakeh** (2019, Germany), is organizing *Through Solidarity, WE Survive*, a call-for-entry initiative that supports Syrian artists in exile and raises awareness around the social,

political, and cultural effects that the COVID-19 pandemic is having on communities. Syrian artists are invited to produce a digital artwork based on a dialogue with a person from within their immediate surroundings with a focus on shared experiences or feelings, and to translate this dialogue into an artwork in the form of a poster. coculture is a Berlin-based non-profit organization that is dedicated to addressing the challenges faced by displaced cultural producers in the Middle East, Europe and Beyond. The **deadline for submissions is June 5**. For more information and to submit work, click [here](#).

COVID-19 Resources

"Without data it would be very easy for governments to tell their own story." Daily data visualisations created by John Burn-Murdoch for the *Financial Times* have provided one of the most reliable pictures of the global coronavirus pandemic. He spoke to *Dezeen* about how his charts allow people to be independently informed. Read more [here](#).

As the weather gets warmer, 12 miles of open streets and nine miles of temporary protected bike lanes have been added to NYC to provide additional space for social-distancing efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19. To view a list of the total 30 miles of open streets click [here](#).

Still need a mask? The City will continue to distribute face coverings in parks, schools, Grab & Go meal sites, NYCHA buildings, grocery stores, and during social distancing enforcement. Learn more [here](#).

How To Help

[God's Love We Deliver](#) cooks and delivers nutritious, medically tailored meals for people too sick to shop or cook for themselves. God's Love is a non-sectarian organization serving people in need and their children and caregivers. All services are provided free. During COVID-19 they are asking for folks to participate in designing and hand decorating "Cards of Caring" for their very large client base. To participate click [here](#)!

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, hate crimes against the Asian community have increased significantly. To combat this persisting hostility, photographer Sirui Ma, in partnership with FAR NEAR magazine, has launched [Artists for Asian American Federation](#), an auction raising money and awareness for the AAF, a non-profit that represents a coalition of 70 community based organizations and serves NYC's vast Asian American population. Learn more [here](#).

Since 1994, [Immigration Equality](#) has advocated for and represented lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ), and HIV-positive immigrants seeking safety, fair treatment, and freedom. This #Pride season, donate to Immigration Equality to help their efforts at protecting LGBTQ and HIV positive refugees as well as advocating against anti-immigrant policies in congress. Click [here](#) to learn more.

RU Staff Recommendation

[Artfully Learning](#) is an experiential and critical cross-examination of the fine art world and the educational sphere. Through the lens of Adam Zucker, an art historian, curator and educator, Artfully Learning explores examples of contemporary artwork that have symbolic learning capabilities inside and outside of the classroom in order to show how art-centered learning has enormous benefits for developing life-long students. Recent highlights include *Finding Hope*, *Exhibiting Empathy and Artfully Learning Through Quaranteens* and *On Social Distance Learning*.



Catherine Wagner, Naval Postgraduate School, Metallurgical Classroom, Monterey, CA, from the series American Classroom, 1986. Via <https://theartsandeducation.wordpress.com>

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