

“ART
is the
ONLY
WAY TO
*run
away*
without
leaving home.”

Twyla Tharp

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from LETTER BOX
the editor

A Pause on Normalcy, A New Cultural Take on Reality TV

The last few months have been a whirlwind of emotions with the course of uncertainty still hanging in the balance. Minus the run on toilet paper, people and communities have come together to embrace the situation that is now our new reality. Our art organizations are resilient as ever, but certainly need our ongoing and unwavering support. When the dust clears, we need to fill those galleries, theaters and exhibitions to capacity. In the meantime, many groups have used their creativity to offer living room concerts, pop-up theater and streaming of film favorites. Opera and concerts can be seen from your very own devices while in the comfort of your home, as well as virtual tours of museums. On OrlandoAtPlay.com you will see under Find an Event a new section entitled Online Streaming. In addition, visit our publishing partner Visit Orlando's blog, at visitorlando.com/blog, regularly for information about virtual experiences on tap for the area, including for arts and culture. No need to miss out on your favorite genre.



PHLEAN M. EBENHACK

Although we have certainly hit “pause” on actually visiting cultural venues, hopefully by mid-summer we can push “play” for go. Orlando Science Center is unveiling the Southern premier of *Pompeii: The Immortal City*. You can journey through time into the daily life of a first-century Roman town. Orlando is one of only four sites within the United States to host this exciting exhibition (pg. 22). We also highlight cultural venues where art embraces love. I was married at the Maitland Art Center in the stone chapel that André Smith built in dedication to his mother. Our wedding was on a cool, crisp November evening that makes us remember why we live in Florida. The majority of our guests had never been on the grounds of the center and found the Chapel and Courtyard to be unique with its representation of so many cultures and beliefs reflected in the architecture. Many weddings have unfortunately been postponed, so if a wedding is in your family's future, make sure to consider one of the many art venues as the backdrop for the special day (pg. 26).

Here's to a day filled with normalcy, travel and romance. ... Let's show our cultural friends some love during these challenging times and remember them when the lights go on. A time when we can shake hands, hug our neighbors and celebrate our commonality.

Stay well,

Cindy Bowman LaFronz
Editor, *Orlando Arts Magazine*

At the time of publication, events and performance dates continued to be uncertain. Most May events have been rescheduled or canceled. Please check with each organization's website for updated information, as well as new virtual experiences.