

Ms. INFORMATION

Self Negotiated Unit - Title: Abandonment and fake news - The Apocalypse



PHOTOBASHING

Photobashing is an art technique where you merge and blend images together, these images could be photos, 3D assets, digital arts, etc.. and compose them into a single piece.



WHY PHOTOBASHING?

Photobashing allows the artist to create realistic images of an environment or character more accurately than most other digital painting techniques. This is most widely used by concept artists to create realistic renders in little time.

APOCALYPSE PAGE 2

According to the Oxford dictionary, 'Apocalypse' is a noun meaning 'A situation causing very serious damage and destruction'. Though Oxford's definition is undoubtedly correct in most cases, it does not explore the concept I am trying to build. I would like to, instead, focus on the original Greek definition of the word, which characterizes it as "revelation", "an unveiling or unfolding of things not previously known and which could not be known apart from the unveiling"

(R. Goswiler "revelation" 1987 p.3 - source).



PHOTOREALISM

Photorealism is a form of art where the artist studies a photo or a scene and uses another medium to either recreate or manipulate it to create something that is still realistic enough to fool the average person to think it's a photograph.

This can be used in many ways, some use it to renovate or deteriorate buildings to depict, accurately, what they would or would have looked like at any given given point in time. Some use it to create concept art for a sci-fi or mystical world to allow the view to believe such a world could exist, some however, use it to create fake realistic images to spread lies and dectet.

The Image on the left is a great example of a person editing themselves sticking out of the window of a plane, its quite believable aswell, but unfortunately they forgot to edit the reflection in their glasses which give away the fact that the image is indeed fake.

CONTEXT

THE APOCALYPSE

We are entering the 418th day of the lockdown that was announced on the 23rd of March, 2020 at 8:30pm. At this time last year many countries started to go out of lockdown and people started to get back to their regular life routines which caused the spread of the COVID-19 virus to start growing again in an exponential manner forcing the countries that decided to go out of lockdown to retract their decision and go back home. This second outbreak caused even harsher lockdown conditions, especially in countries such as the UK where healthcare is free. It has indeed been a while since we've seen the world outside of our front porch. In this desperate time we ask ourselves: "how is the world out there?" Many of us haven't seen the outside in over a year, others who took advantage of the one form of exercise per day allowed by the government to go out for the first two months of the lockdown and have a breath of fresh air.

The decision to allow people to leave their houses was revoked after 3 months of quarantine as the UK topped the charts as the country with most deaths in the world caused by Covid-19. Poetically enough, the death toll has now gone over that of the highest estimates of the black plague in the mid-14th century reaching a whopping 8.17million deaths as of May 10th 2021.

We were promised a vaccine in early 2021, but according to Dr. Mike Hammond of the University of Toronto: "... with the events unravelling the way they did, our researchers and medics have been forced to stop their research and help contain the situation in hospitals due to the many deaths of nurses and doctors while diagnosing COVID-19 patients without proper equipment. The lack of equipment is of course due to many people hoarding surgical masks and sanitizers leading to hospitals and medical centers resorting to asking for donations of any masks, gloves, and sanitizers. Some even went as far as paying fortunes to buy sanitary equipment from the black market, that right THE BLACK MARKET!



“ Boris Johnson orders full UK Lockdown 'you must stay at home' on March, 23, 2020. ”



The Norwich Train Station Seems empty and devoid of life in this picture from May, 5th, 2020

IS THIS AN APOCALYPSE?

According to the Greek Definition of the word, Yes! "An unveiling or unfolding of things not previously known and which could not be known apart from the unveiling" (R. Goswiler "revelation" 1987 p.3 - Source). This sounds exactly as what COVID-19 is!

ABOUT THE CITY



The cities of England have never been so empty, to be fair it's not like the cities outside of England are thriving with activity either but these photographs taken by our team in May of the year 2020 show the streets of England as last seen by people before the full lockdown that happened in June. To our knowledge this is a couple of weeks before all maintenance work ceased and the government told everyone to stay indoors, this includes construction workers, caretakers, and most delivery services, the only people who are currently allowed outside are the people who deliver rations to our houses.

England seems so peaceful in these images. Peace seems like a distant past now though, it feels like this crisis simply has no end.

STORIES OF THE PAST

St. ANDREW'S BREAKIN!

The first building to suffer the consequences of the world situation in Norfolk was the St. Andrew's building of the Norwich University of the Arts. A foreign student broke into the building on May 9th 2020. He was arrested and charged with multiple counts of breaking and entering, vandalism, and property damage and was sentenced to two years of imprisonment. When questioned, the student said they were under a huge amount of stress due to financial issues and stress from being away from their family, so he decided to break in to salvage any food that is in the cafeteria and anything else that he might be able to sell for rent money and keep himself fed.

SO WHAT NEXT?

Not much happened in England until the winter, where the homeless population started seeking shelter and breaking into buildings to stay warm. One of the apprehended individuals found inside one of the buildings said: "what are they gunna do? Send me to jail? At least I'd be warm and fed there!"

They were not very far off, as the English Government was focused on their health care system, the homeless were very much neglected as they didn't have any address to deliver the rations to.

The Government then quickly reverted this wrong-doing by now delivering rations to the select building that the homeless had decided to break into and take shelter in, A decision many people still squint their eyes at to this day.

TODAY'S NEWS

We think people are tired by now of reading the same old thing in this section just phrased differently. In short, the death tole is still rising, we recently beat the black plague in death count, and we shall be remaining home until further notice from the government. But hey! at least the effects of global warming are now proven to be declining! The complete close-down of huge industries that were causing the warming effect has helped the environment recover miraculously! Maybe there is a brightside to this outbreak after all.



QUARANTINE TIPS...

*Honey is the only food that will not rot.
A jar of honey would remain edible of well
over 3000 years!*

(This is going to be the toilet paper crisis all over again..)

OUR WORLD TODAY



DUKE STREET

This is a picture taken by Student M. Sablough on his daily jog during the month of April of the year 2020. Sablough was a foreign student from Lebanon who came to England in late 2019 to study for a Master's degree in Games at the Norwich University of the Arts. He was more than happy to send me a picture of the university that he had from back then for me to share with you guys! Sablough is currently still in England with no way to return home to his family, but he seems to have all his pebbles in a row and is making the best of the situation he's in!

FUN FACT!

The original 'friendship tree' between US president Trump and French President Macron died in quarantine once uprooted after the ceremonial planting. Macron is sending a replacement oak tree.

(Guess its not meant to be...)

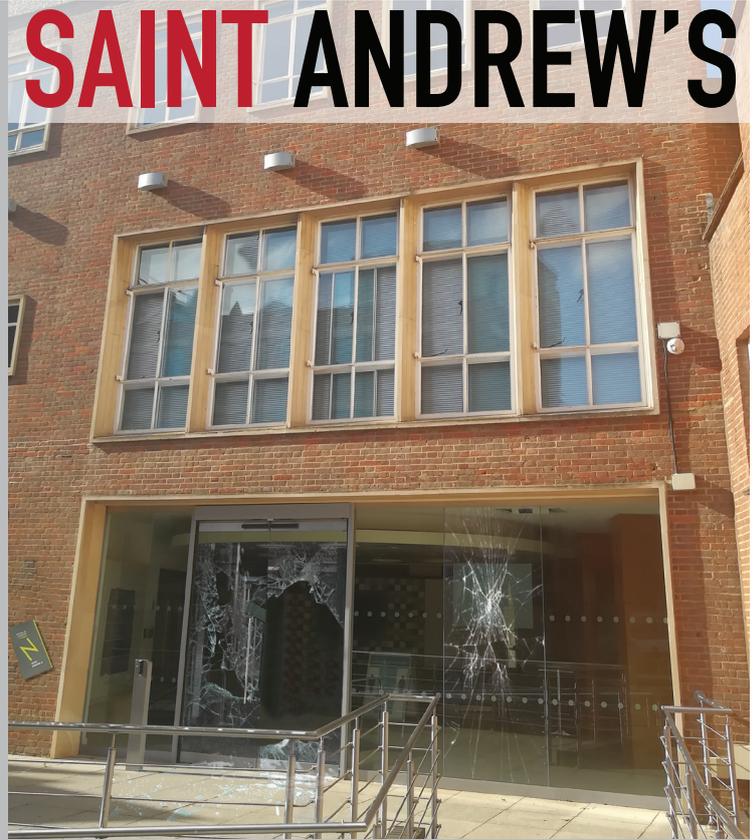
“The world today just looks like a scene from a zombie apocalypse game.”



This Picture was taken less than a week ago by an anonymous source. Believe it or not, this is the same building as the picture above, all-be-it one year of abandonment later. You can immediately see the broken glass at the front of the building. These are the types of buildings that took the biggest hit as they were the easiest to break into for shelter, after all, it only takes one throw of a brick and a sub-par aim to get a door like this one down.

Homeless people aren't the only ones who call this building home now though. As you can see, due to neglect and lack of maintenance the walls of this building have also become home to several forms of moss and mold, so much so that the general underlying structure is starting to fall apart!

OUR WORLD TODAY



Back to St. Andrew's, which I covered on Page 3. It's the building that was broken into early on during the lockdown. As you can see the doors were never fixed, and the building has suffered quite a lot of damage, natural and human made, after the incident. Some of the windows have been broken and the brick has suffered a fair bit. Also, just like every other building in this country... moss... lots and lots of moss all over the place.

Contrary to what it looks like on the outside, this building is quite spacious inside, and along with some homeless people, multiple foreign students who are stuck in the UK and who can't get home have also started calling this place home as they run out of funds to pay for rent.

FUN FACT!

Sir Isaac Newton discovered calculus while in quarantine!

(Get to work ladies and gentlemen! You too could discover something huge! and possibly make children all over the world suffer thanks to your discovery aswell!!)

OUR WORLD TODAY

SAINT GEORGE'S



FUN FACT!

the word 'quarantine' was first originally in the 14th century from the Venetian word 'quarantena' meaning forty days. This was due to the 40 days of isolations enforced on ships and people before entering the country, a practice that was used as a measure of preventing the spread of the black plague!

(so.. shouldn't we be out by now? like 378 days ago?)

This poor university really made a bad choice with these glass doors all over the place, didn't it? Well as you would expect, this place has also been taken over by many of the street-dwellers of the apocalypse! Reports say that this building's basement has been flooded by the nearby river. Apparently, even with the flooded basement, this place has quite a lot of space to go around anyways!

I guess if there is a lesson to learn from all of this, it's that life always finds a way. What we abandon becomes someone else's treasure, in our apocalypse the homeless have found a kind of utopia of their own, one where they have a roof over their head and a government that takes care of them.

At the end of the day, our dystopia... is someone else's utopia.

FINAL WORDS

STAY SAFE.

STAY HOME.

PROTECT THE NHS.

SAVE LIVES.

THANK YOU FOR READING!