It is meaningful that the work selected for the 2020 Media Arts Annual reflects both the time before and after the coronavirus crisis. We hope the messages included in these artworks are seen as a gesture to the community. A reminder that despite the distance between us we are connected, not only by our collective experience of a global pandemic, but through the reflections and observations of this next generation of moving image artists.

Remarkably, the students’ work was completed without the equipment and facilities normally supporting such technically demanding pieces, and submitted from multiple continents, all while dealing with the frightening impact of this virus on their lives. We applaud this outstanding group of artist for their creativity and resilience.

The work streaming in this year’s annual screening has been selected and programmed by an external jury. We are grateful to artist/filmmaker Sylvia Schedelbauer and artist/animator Pouya Afshar for the thought and time they gave to this process while sequestered in their homes in Berlin and Cambridge.

To all, stay safe, be kind and make art,
Jane Gillooly

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