



Dear Readers,

We are so pleased to present the following articles to you: The Challenge and Transformation at NYC's Museum of Chinese in America; Art in the Time of Covid, Part II; Dance in the Time of Covid in NYC; the extraordinary glass flowers at Harvard and the one-of-a-kind Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. These artistic gems remind us of what makes America so special for the arts because the range and diversity of our artistic efforts and organizations are so deep and diverse. In this issue we look at the arts in transformation.

It is heart-warming to listen and read about these artists and dancers, writers and organizations as they manage the enormous upheaval that Covid has brought about. They are stepping up to these life-changing challenges with grit, determination and creativity. MOCA is getting grants, dancers are performing outside and artists are turning to the Internet and social media to show their work and connect with collectors. The arts are, perhaps, more alive than ever as artists are forced to break with their routines and showcase their talents in new ways. They are showing courage and creativity and their joy is contagious and healing.

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Thank you for joining us!

Victoria Larson

Challenge and Transformation at New York's Museum of Chinese in America

By Linda Cabasin

The 40th anniversary of New York City's Museum of Chinese in America in 2020 was anything but typical of such milestone events. In January 2020, a fierce five-alarm fire swept through 70 Mulberry Street in Chinatown, home of the museum's irreplaceable archives. During March, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic took hold in New York, eventually closing the museum temporarily and threatening its financial future. [Read on](#)



Art in the Time of Covid, Part II

Summarized by Victoria Larson

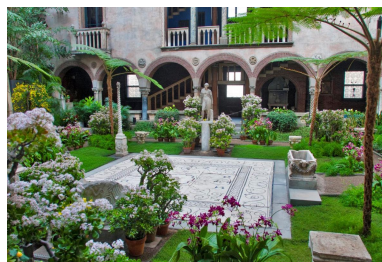
Following on our first article about Art in the Time of Covid-19, we now turn to three artists, sculptor Joe McDonnell based in New York City, and the painters, Louise Bang and Gui Lessin, based in Zealand, Denmark. They answered questions that many artists are posing to themselves but also what others are asking: How has Covid-19 impacted the lives of artists? [Read on](#)



Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum: A Gift to the City of Boston

By Barbara Radcliffe Rogers and Stillman Rogers

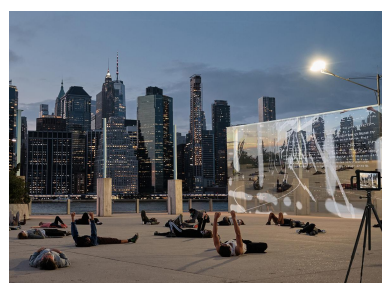
Wandering through her neo-renaissance Florentine palazzo, now the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, you can't help wishing you'd been invited to one of Mrs. Gardner's soirees. To say she was a character doesn't do her justice; she defied all the blue-blood Brahmin conventions of the proper Boston matrons whose eyebrows she frequently raised. [Read on](#)



Dance in the Time of Covid: A Close Up of the New York City Dance Scene: Where are we now and where are we going?

By Catherine Tharin

Live dance has been particularly devastated by the pandemic. Dancers are most alive when they breathe the same air, touch another body, and rhythmically synchronize movement. Training the body and rehearsing together are intrinsic to the art form. When that is taken away, what is left? Thankfully, dancers are, to the tips of their toes and fingertips, improvisational beings. [Read on](#)



Glass Flowers and Ethnic Art at Harvard

By Barbara Radcliffe Rogers

Harvard University is known for the superb collections in the Harvard Art Museums, a combination of three former museums, where Italian early-Renaissance masterpieces, European Impressionists and Expressionists join Chinese jade and bronze treasures under one roof. [Read on](#)



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