

Playful Provocations

COVID-19 vaccination centre

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CONTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Dr Nela Milic is an artist, an academic working in media and arts and is a senior lecturer and contextual and theoretical studies coordinator in the design school at London College of Communication. Throughout her career, Nela has delivered projects for the Royal Opera House, Barbican, Arts Council England, John Lewis, Al Jazeera, LIFT etc. Nela devised many multimedia and mapping projects where she has dealt with memory, archives, activism, city, participation and art from the Balkans. She ran Refugees and the Arts Initiative – a British national organization for the ‘refugee arts’. She is a co-chair of Art and Memory Working Group of Memory Studies Association. She evaluates EU COST applications in humanities and is a consultant for the Science Fund of Republic of Serbia. Nela is co-investigator of the AHRC funded Peace and Conflict Cultural Network and a team member of Arts and Reconciliation research project.

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This image was a breath of fresh air in the midst of the COVID-19 year. We have been hearing about the death of so many people throughout it and then about the death of economy post-pandemic. This was headed by tourism industry that was halted at the beginning of the pandemic and still finds it hard to recover. I engaged with it at Datca town on the Aegean Sea in Turkey where COVID-19 seemed not existent. Whilst the world was at stand still, Datca Peninsula had fewer tourists, but was at its familiar self out of season. No one was in the shop where I saw this, ‘[n]o bargaining’ picture and I thought how it would sit in COVID-19 vaccination centres that had more visitors than Datca in the last two years. As we were not able to choose the vaccine at that time and should have been happy with what we were given, ‘[n]o bargaining’ looked just right for being placed there instead of the shop....

SUGGESTED CITATION

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