

HOW CORONA CHANGED MY LIFE

# EXHIBITION

2021/2022



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Photos on page 3 and 28 by Anna Shvets





# Introduction

## Corona and the world.

On December 31, 2019, an outbreak of a new pneumonia with a yet unknown cause was confirmed in Wuhan, China. In January 2020, the World Health Organization proposed the name COVID-19 for the infectious disease. In February 2020, the disease evolved into an epidemic and eventually a global pandemic known as “Corona.”

In numerous countries around the world, there were massive disruptions to everyday life as the pandemic unfold. The overall social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic includes the economic crisis of 2020-2021. School closures, isolations, curfews: Children and young people are particularly affected by the restrictions. That’s why it’s important to us to give them a voice. “How has Corona changed my life?” is what we asked children and young people. Children and young people between the ages of 5 and 18 from Bangladesh, Bolivia, Germany, Namibia, and Spain sent us their contributions. In this exhibition, we see their artistic answers. The overall winners from four categories are published here. These include the best group work and the best work from the different age categories.



# Ela Ekizoglu

15 years, Germany

My name is Ela Ekizoglu and i am 15 years old Grade:10.4  
I drew this picture in Arts class in english.

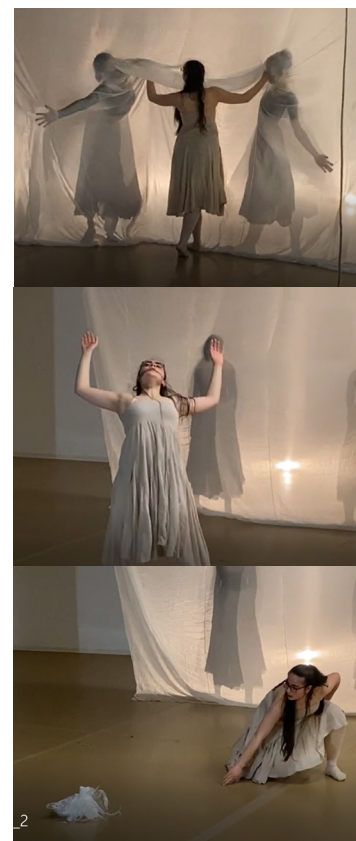
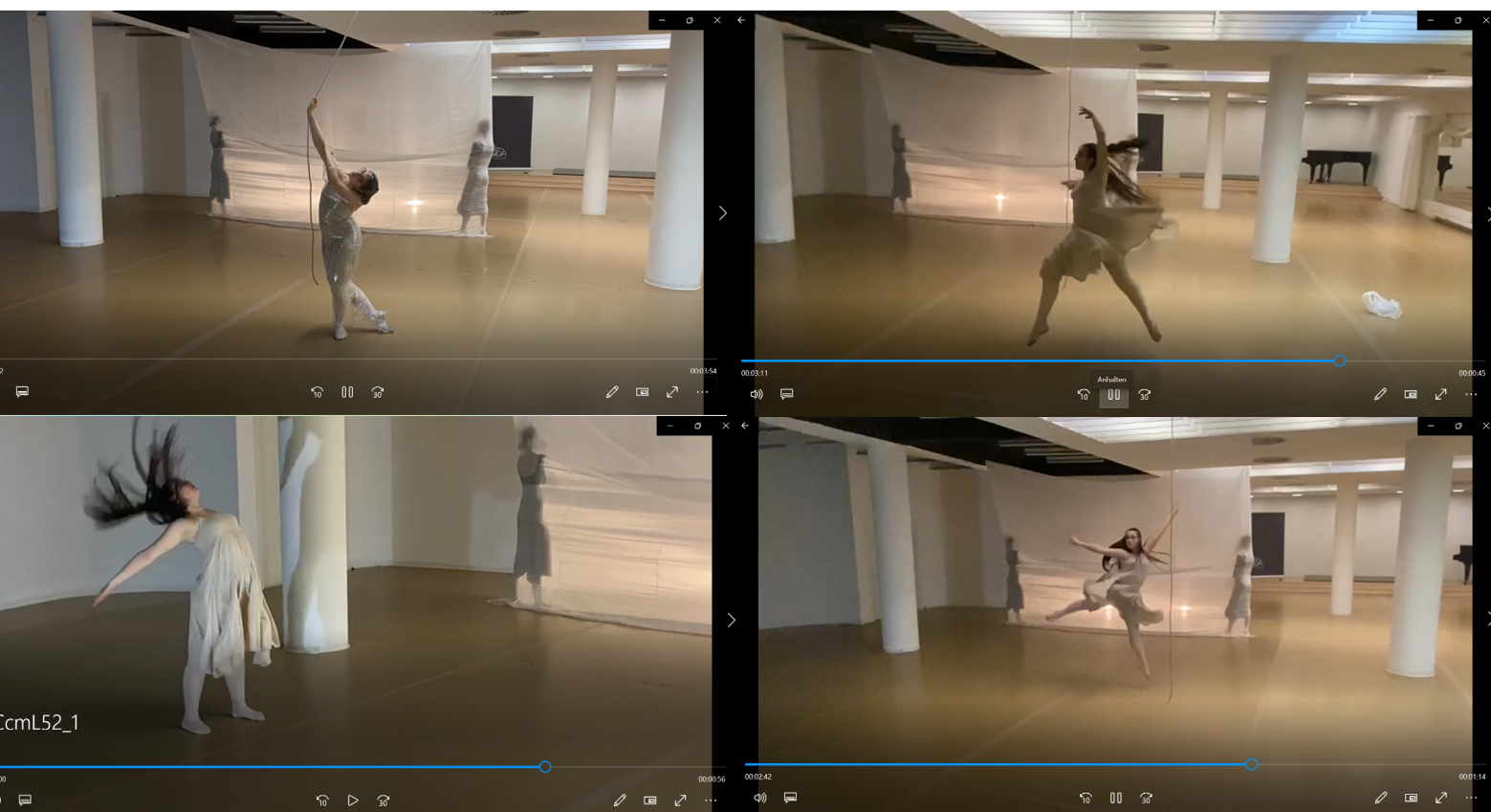
“In the foreground I am who miss the past, shopping, meeting friends, traveling and going to school normally, these things I can no longer experience in covid time. On the left side is the present so what’s going on right now. I drew the sun as a big corona virus.”





# Eleonora Giglio

16 years, Germany



## “HOW CORONA CHANGED MY LIFE

The Art Competition provides a valuable opportunity to share essential experiences gained through the unforeseen challenges witnessed during 2020. My life has changed drastically since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. Even though our lives have been significantly restricted, it does not mean that we have to be reduced as well. Whilst we have to adapt to ever changing rules, regulations and therefore new conditions, we constantly step out of our comfort zones making us clearly more flexible. Due to these conditions, we develop a deeper sense of compassion for one another and our empathy grows. Additionally, our appreciation levels expand for our fellow human beings. My dance mentor accompanied me in creating, exploring and defining the power of my expression through dance. This dance represents my personal journey since 2020 and portrays positive and negative aspects, which I have experienced and continue to experience during the pandemic. Often I had the feeling of being overwhelmed and felt frightened, because our lives had changed so abruptly and dramatically. I especially felt the fear of losing loved ones and the possibility of getting infected. In this dance I tried to express this journey.

OPENING SCENE : I am safely wrapped in my cocoon, which represents my natural comfort zone. Yet I feel restricted and have the urge to break out and have to fight for my freedom, particularly since fact is - we have a “new normal”.

THE JOURNEY : Even if I took one step forward, it felt like three steps back and I repeatedly had to fight for my freedom and security. As time passed, I realised that there are many ways I can embrace the beauty and joy of life and now I feel more prepared to clasp the difficulties in life in different ways.”



# Michelle Acedo Casasure

16 years, Germany



"When I started the project I first thought about how different I look today. The mask changes your face a lot. On one hand it hides most of you, on the other hand it highlights your eyes.

After that I thought about all the things Corona took away from me: meeting friends, going to school, spending my holidays on a beautiful beach or in an interesting town, my karate group, live concerts etc.

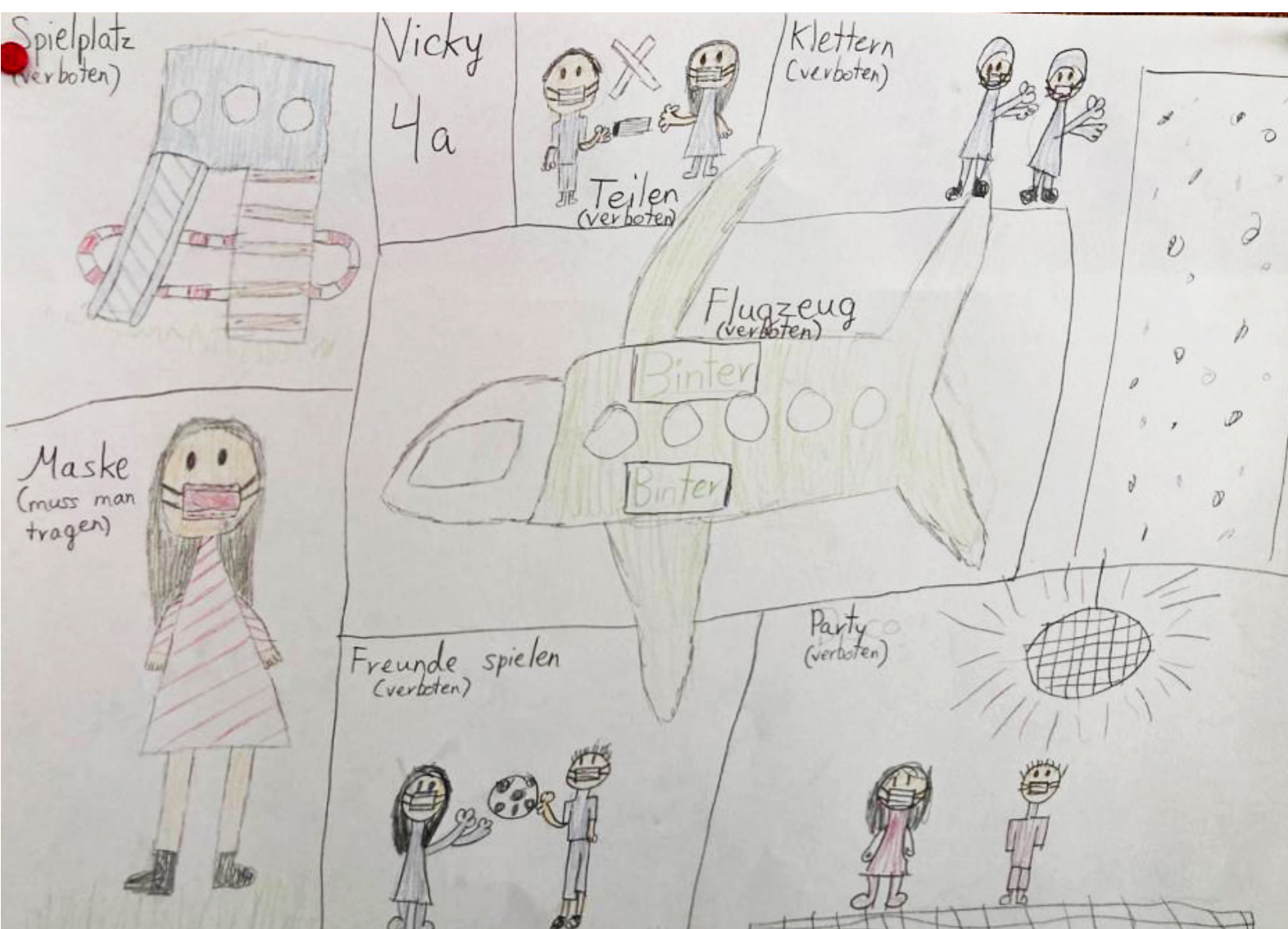
All these things have become memories or hopes for the future.

Of course you can get on without, but I think I understand now how people feel who never have the change to live like I do without Corona."



# Vicky

grade 4, Spain



# Aroa

grade 7, Spain

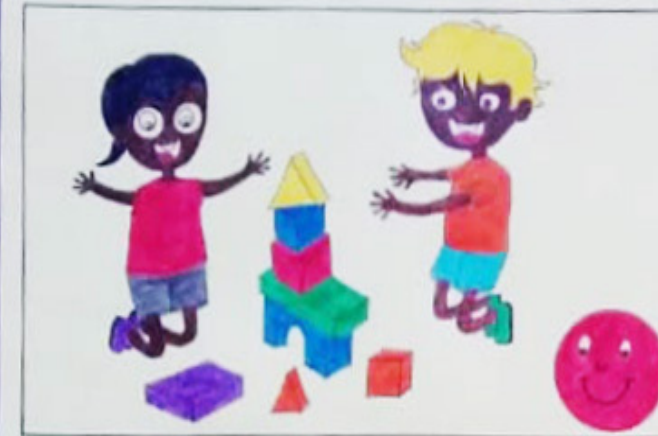




# Alriano Hangara

14 years, Namibia

## HOW CORONA CHANGED MY LIFE "FROM NORMAL TO ABNORMAL"



- We used to play together and socialise but now we have to keep social distance, play alone and wear our mask at all times.
- We use to eat together and share our lunch with those that are not having but now, no sharing. What will happen with those poor kids?
- We use to play around freely, outside at the park, playground but now we have to play indoors without having fun.

WHY CORONA? WHY COVID-19?



# Raquel

## H

grade 7, Spain





# Medina Becovic

16 years, Germany

“How Corona Changed my life

It all began on the 17th of march 2020...

I was on my way back home from my practical, when I got the message that all schools need to close because of a virus. First I was kinda confused, why the schools need to close because of an virus, but I also was happy to don't need to go to school. But than everything changed...

I started to get scared, the media reported about the first deaths, the infections increased and

Germany began to be affected more and more, people began to hoarding, the shops closed and I couldn't see my friends anymore. The things changed so quickly.

After a few months the mask requirement started. I've never worn a mask before, it was so weird. When the warm weather began, this is how

the entry restrictions began. You needed to have an negativ test and go a few days in quarantine. The police started to drive throw streets and check if more than two people met together. In grocery stores you had to keep 1,5 meters distance. After 5 months of home schooling I finally went to school, the first time I was excited to meet everyone again, but it wasn't like usual. Our class was separated, everyone was 1,5 meters away, we couldn't hug or shake hands and needed to wear our masks. On hot weekends I couldn't go swimming with my friends, it started to get more and more boring.

After a few weeks the summer holidays started, the situation loosened up. I went to an other country and was happy to have my freedom again. The situation wasn't like in Germany, no masks, no distance and no much infections.

When I was back in Germany the situation also came down. After the holidays the school began normal, I thought everything is going to be like usual again, but than in December it was worse than ever...

Beauty salons, restaurants, shops and schools closed again. It was the beginning of the second lockdown. Christmas, new year, my birthday and carnival never been so boring before. The only good new was that the corona vaccination finally started. After a few months the graduate classes could go to school again, like me. In school we need to get 2 times a week tested on corona. And now everything is getting more and more worse, we have an curfew. I went 10 years to school and now I couldn't even have an closing trip or an big graduation party.

I feel like the whole world is hiding their emotions behind there masks. Corona changed my life completely but not just in negative aspects, I had so much time for my self.. to thing about what or who I need and what or who I didnt need. I removed everything and everyone of me that broke me, it feels like I'm a completely new person. Don't just look at the negative thinks about corona, I know that you have more time, so take the time and think about YOU.”



# Art class

## Light For The Children Center

5 and 6 years, Namibia



“Oh Corona you changed our living style.

Covid 19 you changed my life.

You let us suffer from fear and killings.

They say we learn best to play.

You let me stay away from my friends.

Now I am unhappy.

Covid 19 go away and never come back.

I want to be happy again.”



# Julian von dem Berge

5 years, Germany



# Victoria G. A.

grade 7, Spain





# Antonella Florencia F

grade 2, Bolivia





# Zaina Alam Piya

16 years, Bangladesh

"In this artwork I tried to show how Corona changed my life . 2020 and 2021 have been tough years for all of us. Because of corona, all of us are struggling in some kind of way. Our lives changed drastically. Staying inside the house all the time, isn't really easy for humans - when they used to work & stay outside most of their time before lockdown. During this situation, I studied, created artworks, spent time with family - but someone who kept me most entertained was my beloved pup. She played with me all the time. Whenever I felt a bit down, she would always be there for me to make me smile. I felt like I spent most of my time with my lovely pet, we dreamed about going to a park soon ( of course, when it opens!) and to have a fun outing. The current situation has been tough for everybody & for me as well- but it is a lot easier for me when she's by my side. Also, I wanted to show how the birds are free in the sky & we are ones who ended up in cages ( our houses) during Corona . It's not something we thought would happen but the birds are freely flying while we look out and see them ."





# The Partners

The competition and exhibition “How Corona changed your life?” was organized by Suni e. V. and the Light for the Children Foundation.



## Light for the Children Foundation

Light for the Children Foundation is a faith based organization in and for the African context.

It started in an organic way, inside a very poor and disrupted community, in 1999. Its main actors are community members with the calling of care-giving, teaching and leading. It aims at comprehensively serving orphans and vulnerable children while enlarging a vision for their future.

[Find out more about the Light for the Children Foundation.](#)



## Suni e.V.

Suni e. V. is a German-Namibian association working to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goal number 4 “Quality Education for All”. We support selected educational institutions in Namibia’s Omaheke region with the aim of improving the educational opportunities and living conditions of vulnerable children and young adults. On top of this, we promote intercultural exchange between Germans and Namibians as well as educating people in Germany about Namibia.  
kontakt@sun-ev.de

[Find out more about Suni e.V.](#)





# Credits

We sincerely thank all participating artists and teachers from Bangladesh, Bolivia, Germany, Namibia and Spain. We would also like to thank the jury and the organizers of the painting competition. A special thanks goes to: Barbara Scharfbil-  
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