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SOCIETY ENTERTAINMENT ART FASHION BEAUTY LIVING HEALTH SEX & RELATIONSHIP S LGBTQ+ CURATED BY

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## artil's Ultimate Guide To Virtual Art (Galleries) - Seven Continents Edition!

Anyone missing being on vacation? Maybe doing a little sightseeing? Feasting your eyes and mind with exceptional artworks perhaps? In case you are someone who needs a daily dose of art and your country is going through a lockdown period (again...), or maybe you just fancy staying at home, artil has you covered!

Loads of great options have put us to the test of curating the very best cultural virtual tours for you! We hope that you love our selection as much as we do. Please get cosy on your preferred seat and prepare yourself for a treat!



Photo credit @melaniewu\_ (via instagram)

## Oceania

### Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, New Zealand

The perfect way to begin our virtual tours is through [Cultured Conversations](#), a digital series that explores issues and ideas from the cultural sector in New Zealand. As for the online star activity of the Gallery: the [Enchanted Worlds Visual Tour](#) which presents a captivating introduction to the Art of Edo Japan; a flourishing era for Japanese art during a self-isolation period of the island from the world. Afterwards, you can choose from [audio and videos](#) exploring the gallery's collection; interviews with various art personalities, snippets from views and insight [articles](#) revolving around the visual arts universe. The gallery also provides the possibility to immerse oneself in their [online collection](#) and learn about the [conservation](#) work they do.

### Art Gallery of New South Wales, Australia

Surf through the [galleries and exhibitions of](#) the New South Wales Art Gallery, dive into intimate [conversations](#) with artists and indulge yourself with the amazingly broad [playlist options](#) (curator insights from European and Australian galleries, photography talks, lectures, guided tours, travel talks, and more) that this art residence gem has to offer.

Also, have a look into the [ARTEXPRESS](#) annual exhibition archive, which goes back to 2005 and spotlights some of the best art students in the region. For inspiring news, you have the option to follow the gallery's [blog](#) and for a further level of candidness follow the Gallery director [Michael Brand on Instagram](#), where he posts photos of art and life in Sydney. For imagery, explore the [online collection](#) and the [Google Arts & Cultures](#) features page about the NSW.

### National Gallery of Australia, Australia

NGA is the eye-catching designated house of [national visual arts](#), [international modern art](#) and one of the world's largest collections of [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art](#). One can choose from taking a virtual tour of the [galleries](#), learning about the [conservation department](#), exploring [artist series](#), the artist focused [videos](#) and even enjoying a more curated experience such as the [Xu Zhen's](#) "Eternity vs Evolution" exhibition. This exhibition is where the Chinese activist and artist "challenges cultural assumptions, social taboos and comments on the idea of art as a commodity".

If you are in a family plan or just want to release your inner artist you can also check out the [Art from home](#) section which is full of activities developed by the Gallery's learning team or follow [@nationalgallery.artirl](#) for real life art and events content made by teens for teens. Last but not least, the Gallery has an incredible [podcast list](#) that ranges from architecture series to interviews with renowned artists and art talks. As well as a [blog](#) for all of you who love to read. The [collection](#) contains 97,000 works of art available online including Australian art, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander art, European & American art, Asian art and Pacific arts.

## Asia

### National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea

The museum offers an [Online Museum](#) experience through a video collection comprising Artist Interviews; Curator-guided exhibition tours and lectures. You can also dive into the museum's grandiose [collection](#) and find pieces from the 1900s onwards. TIP: If you search by Year of Collection bear in mind that the collections may include pieces from various years. For instance, if you decide to filter by "Year of collection 1977" you will be able to find artworks from 1910 up to 1977.

### National Gallery of Singapore, Singapore

Explore the works of four [Singaporean photographers](#) in an all-new 3D environment including a virtual private guide who will assist you through the tour. Visit the [#GalleryAnywhere](#) section which offers numerous virtual experiences; including interviews, [access](#) to over 4,000 artworks and 7000 archival materials, and even [behind-the-scenes reflections](#) from the Gallery's staff on working and creating accessible content. For more content please visit their online Magazine, [Perspectives](#).

### National Palace Museum, Taiwan

The National Palace Museum is the house of nearly 700,000 objects covering the Song, Yuan, Ming, and Qing imperial collection. Moreover, they offer [theme sites](#) dedicated to [Marco Polo](#), the [Imperial Clan](#), [Polyethnic Scholars](#) and [Recluse Scholars](#). Visit its permanent exhibitions through their [720° Virtual Reality Tour](#) and complement the tour the content the [iPalace Channel](#) has to offer and their [YouTube Channel](#) (Japanese language skills required for these ones). Not your cup of tea? Discover their [Google Arts & Culture website](#) or the most amazing art selection (it truly is!) presented by [Category](#), by [Dynasty](#), by [Gallery](#), and [Multimedia](#) (Digital video or 3D Digital). Last but not least, in order to make images and research materials more accessible to the public, the museum has an [open data section](#) where you can download images for free and unlimited use.

## Africa

### The Melrose Gallery, Johannesburg

Named "The Gallery of the People" Melrose Gallery promotes African art, culture, tradition and identity. They continuously support talented artists by providing them with a platform to engage with their audiences and showcase their talent to the world. Carefully curated [news](#) analyzing the work of pan-african artists and modern art exhibitions are part of the online content the gallery has to offer. Regarding social media, you are more than welcome to check their YouTube [channel](#), Instagram [account](#) and Facebook [page](#). Also, they offer [viewing room](#) experiences allowing you to have a fully digital art adventure.

### Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art of Africa, South Africa

Located in what used to be a grain silo and allegedly the largest sudafrican building, the Zeitz MOCAA museum encompasses nine exhibition floors in 9.500 sq meters. The museum preserves and researches contemporary art from Africa. If you want to listen to audio tours, they are available in this SoundCloud channel. Moreover, explore their newly launched blog and learn more about exhibitions and art news.



Photo credit @migonnn (via instagram)

### South African National Gallery, South Africa

This Gallery is the house of collections of South African, African, British, French, Dutch and Flemish art. Also, they have a really interesting research section on their website where they reflect on "how certain species or certain population groups play a vital role in the world as we know it today". Some of the research fields are: slavery at the Cape, Shouth Africa; Egyptyan influence and heritage in South Africa; Biodiversity studies; Figweb, a thematic website specialized on figs and fig wasps and WaspWeb which provides "bioinformatics resources for wasps, bees and ants from the Afrotropical biogeographical region. Also, find the latest News and Media from Africa's art scene. Lastly, the virtual exhibition experiences you were waiting for: a Nelson Mandela interactive exhibit, the Boonstra Diorama virtual tour, and more.



Photo credit @thando\_phehlukwayo (via instagram)

## Europe

### Artland, Denmark

This has to be one of artil's favourites on this list just because this platform is quite innovative. Thinking of a global audience, [Artland](#) uses technology as their medium of choice to simplify access to the art world. Did you ever think that an art fair could be held virtually? Well, the [Enter Art Fair](#) expo proves it is possible by allowing you to travel through galleries and artworks in the greatest [international art fair](#) in Scandinavia. Yes, it's true that if you are a collector you will very much enjoy this platform but if you are not interested in buying through a [curated artist list](#) and you just want to immerse further into the contemporary artwork, [this](#) is the place to do so.

You thought that was all? Well, you are mistaken because Artland allows you to explore thousands of [galleries](#) from all over the world (you can even filter them by country) and have access to exclusive virtual tours of their exhibitions amongst other content! But what if one wants a Virtual Reality fair? Well... you can try the experience [here](#). An art [magazine](#)? Got it. What about an [art guide](#) for when the lockdown is over? Yes, they also have that!

**“Art exists to evoke our feelings. We exist to enable collectors and art lovers to feel them...” - Artland.**

### Uffizi Galleries, Italy

The [Uffizi Galleries](#) offers a full virtual experience that will activate your senses. Firstly, [Hypervisions](#) as its name hints this exhibit displays HD pictures, 360° views and compelling descriptions that open the door to the collection's masterpieces. Secondly, [Imagines](#) the galleries' online magazine featuring essays from the collections, news, articles and more (don't you love the names of their sections? They are just inspiring!).

Is there more? Sure... [Factories of Stories](#) is the storytelling project at the Uffizi Galleries: “twelve Uffizi’s masterpieces narrated in audio-tracks offer the public an unusual vision of the works, along with the museum as an inexhaustible “workshop” of stories.” But what if I want to watch a video series? No problem, just visit [these](#) footage and video clips narrating art collections, initiatives and activities.

Last but not least, explore their online artwork imagery collection [here](#). Also, online tools currently available at the Digital Archives section are the [Photographic Archive and Inventories](#); the [Artwork Catalogue](#); and the [Euploos \(Drawing Database\)](#).

#### British Museum, United Kingdom

Be part of an immersive experience through [the Museum of the World](#), an interactive timeline covering: Art and design; Living and dying; Power and identity; Religion and belief; Trade and conflict from the year 2,000,000 before the current era to the XIX century. Supplement this visit with a stop at the museum’s [online collection](#). Moreover, relish yourself in an [audio guide tour](#) - available in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Arab and Chinese - that takes you through the most popular objects in the museum’s collection. If after all of this you are still eager for more, you can always embark on the beloved [podcast](#) or [blog](#) journey.

### North America

#### Museo Nacional de Arte, México

Through Mexico’s [National Museum of Art \(MUNAL\)](#) collection you will be able to find Mexican works of art produced between the second half of the XVI century and 1954. You can learn who their featured artists are [here](#), and their art mediums [here](#). For a more curated experience check their [Google & Arts website](#). Explore their [YouTube channel](#) (bare in mind that it’s in Spanish) and follow them on [Instagram](#) for the latest news!

#### The Cleveland Museum of Art, United States of America

The Cleveland Museum (CMA) has so many alternatives to pick from that it is almost impossible not to love one. Their [digital archives](#) go from Dalí to Caravaggio to Andy Warhol. They also include pre Common Era Asian ceramics, paintings from the greatest artist of all eras, french furniture and even Egyptian coffins. Amazing series such as a weekly [video series](#) that shares the insights of CMA curators and staff on exhibitions and objects from the permanent collection are also available. [Behind the Beat](#), is a series available to you that features composers and performers in a time of isolation. Look for the [Virtual Events](#) section which allows you to explore the work of some of the best artists around.

They even have a conservation series where you can learn about the work the conservation department does called [#CMAConservation](#). And my personal favourite for Friday night fun is their [activities and challenges](#) inspired by works of art of the CMA’s collection!

### Digital Museums Canada, Canada

This platform [receives proposals](#) to invest in online projects by Canadian museums and heritage organizations and showcases amazing art projects. From basic virtual experiences to complete online adventures; such as web applications and educational resources and web-based games. The topics of the projects? A broad artistic selection including [music](#), [design](#), [architecture](#) and [nature](#) (one can explore the beautiful reserve of Mont Saint-Hilaire Biosphere through interactive maps, short movies, in the tales of storytellers or through the lenses of photographers). You can also find [art focused](#) projects and of course a lot of Canadian history, with projects such as [British Columbia's Black Pioneers](#). Click [here](#) if you would like to review the complete projects list.

### South America

#### Museo Larco, Perú

Your "[gateway to ancient Peru](#)", established in 1926 Larco Museum has a history of promoting public access to its collection. Apart from housing an invaluable [collection](#) of ancient archeological objects, [Larco Museum](#) contributes to national and international [exhibitions](#) focused on ancient Peru. Wander through around 30.000 ancient pottery artifacts through [this 360°](#) virtual tour and the [Erotic](#)



Photo credit @chil\_latte (via instagram)

[Gallery exhibition](#). You can also browse the museum's [electronic catalogue](#), one of the first online collections in Latin America and their permanent [360° online exhibition](#). Note that Google Arts & Culture also has a curated [website](#) of the museum collection.



### Banrepcultural, Colombia

Spread over a network of 29 cities in Colombia, [Banrepcultural](#), Banco de la República's cultural activity takes place in museums ([Museo del Oro Nariño](#); [Museo Etnográfico](#); [Museo del Oro Zenú](#); [Museo del Oro Calima](#); [Museo del Oro Quimbaya](#); [Museo del Oro Tairona](#)), libraries and educational centers among other spaces. Its mission is to contribute with the management of Colombia's cultural heritage, promote access to knowledge and work to consolidate a strong sense of citizenship. If you check their site you will be able to find a varied offer of [audiovisual and interactive content](#) including: conferences, interviews, documentaries, tutorials, interactive games, timelines referring to Colombia's our cultural heritage (Note that his content is in Spanish.)

### Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Argentina

The National Museum of Fine Arts houses a vast collection of Argentine and european art composed of more than 12.000 pieces from different periods. In order to learn a little bit more about it you can browse their [English](#) and [Portuguese](#) websites, but bear in mind that most of the content is in Spanish. This is the case with: the latest [news](#) related to the museum's exhibitions and film festivals; [Publications](#); Library [online archives](#) and their [YouTube](#) channel. Thankfully imagery is quite a universal language, and for that you can check their [digital collection](#), [Flickr](#), [Google & Arts](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.

## Antartica

DISCLAIMER: For practical purposes, we are only able to provide history and nature tours of Antartica. Hope you enjoy them!

For a better experience of [this tour](#), we recommend you select the full-screen view. If after viewing this video you are in Awe; artil suggests the following free [episode](#) of [Our Planet](#), a documentary series, courtesy of Netflix and YouTube, which "showcases the world's natural wonders, iconic species and wildlife spectacles".

To further explore Antartica, you are more than welcome to this [website](#); that takes the name of the Irish explorer Ernest Henry Shackleton, one of the most well-known representatives of the so-called [Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration](#). The interactive experience allows the user to walk around Antartica and enjoy 360 virtual tours of relevant landmarks.

Although some museums were open during 2020 or started opening to the public in 2021, there are restrictions on the number of visitors allowed and opening hours have been limited. Moreover, thecoronavirus pandemic accelerated the crossing of real life habits with new technological behaviour tendencies. Art institutions and companies around the world, ranging from small to big business, had to recalculate and jump into virtual trends to connect with their communities and audiences.

Whether we like it or not our present looks different. As change appears to be inevitable and providing virtual services costs money (i.e. high end photographic techniques and VR technology are becoming a must), the art world is starting to rethink their goals, budgets and priorities as a new niche opens. Art institutions reported that during the pandemic, virtual tours resulted in increasing numbers of people visiting their websites.