



New delights Bosch's art reimagined for world of digital woes

Sam Jones
Madrid

Adam is a busy robot poring over the codes of creation. The climate disaster has imprisoned the devil in a block of ice. And a social media sinner is lashed to a hashtag for all eternity while a Terminator stalks through a charnel house hell.

The Garden of Earthly Delights is once again in full, admonitory bloom. More than five centuries after it was completed, Hieronymus Bosch's masterpiece is being reimagined and reinterpreted by 15 international artists using everything from sound, art and sculpture to painting, video, installation, gifs and animation.

Bosch's original triptych, which sits in the Prado in Madrid, warns of the dangers of yielding to our baser desires. Its 21st-century descendants, on show in a huge, converted slaughterhouse complex down the road, speak eloquently, and often disturbingly, of technology, consumerism, the



PHOTOGRAPHS: COLECCIÓN SOLO



solipsism of social media, physical identity, the commodification of sex, and a planet in peril.

The exhibition, staged at Matadero Madrid by the Colección Solo, is the fruit of five years of acquisitions and commissions, and 18 months of preparation.

"One of the drivers was the idea that the original work is kind of the Renaissance version of an interactive artwork: it's got these grey shutters on the outside and this scene of the world that's not particularly interesting in its own right," said Rebekah Rhodes, the collection's head of research and publications.

▲ Artists such as Davor Gromilovic use everything from painting to gifs to warn of the dangers in yielding to our baser desires in the 21st century

Once opened, however, the triptych's dazzling oil on wood reveals its secrets and would have offered its viewers both titillation and moral instruction.

"There's also the idea of Bosch's garden as a mirror for the present; taking this idea that the original could be seen as a guide to good behaviour for a noble class," said Rhodes. "But if we hold up a mirror to the 21st century, what is there? Is there a nice landscape we see?"

▼ A visitor to the Madrid gallery viewing SMACK collective's Speculum triptych, and left, detail of their character Crapivore

Bill Clinton leaves hospital after treatment for infection

Associated Press
Los Angeles

Bill Clinton was released yesterday from the Southern California hospital where he had been treated for an infection.

The former US president was released around 8am from the University of California Irvine medical center.

Clinton, 75, was admitted on Tuesday to the hospital south-east of Los Angeles with an infection unrelated to Covid-19, officials said.

Clinton's spokesperson, Angel Ureña, had said on Saturday that Clinton would remain in hospital one more night to receive further intravenous antibiotics. But all health indicators were "trending in the right direction", Ureña said.

An aide to the former president said Clinton had a urological infection that spread to his bloodstream.

In the years since Clinton left the White House in 2001, the former president has faced several health scares.

In 2004 he underwent quadruple bypass surgery, in 2005 he had surgery for a partially collapsed lung, and in 2010 he had a pair of stents implanted in a coronary artery.

Clinton has responded to worries over his health by embracing a largely vegan diet that has seen him lose weight and report improved health.



▲ Bill Clinton leaves the hospital with his wife, Hillary. He was treated for an infection unrelated to Covid-19

A lot of the people we've brought together in this show are doing that and forcing us to ask really relevant questions about what's around us."

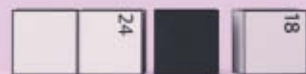
Visitors to the show enter a dark hall soundtracked by Enrique del Castillo's Umbráfono II, which uses celluloid to create a hypnotic score by mixing 16th-century polyphonic compositions with contemporary electronics. Then there is Dave Cooper's Bosco Cooper, in which a couple ride on a wolf through a forest of nipple flowers. "As long as all those weirdos in my painting are consenting adults, then it's all OK," he says in the catalogue. The show ends with Speculum, a digital triptych by SMACK that depicts a post-natural garden of technological horrors.

What, one wonders, would Bosch himself have made of all this lurid re-landscaping of his garden?

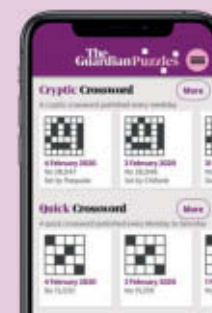
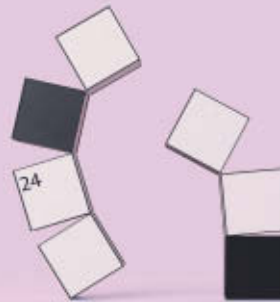
"I feel pretty sure that he would feel excited about the range of different media and the range of different opinions that are in the show," said Rhodes. "I hope so. Or he might be shocked. He might think we're all going to hell."

Until 27 February

From "no idea"



to "thank you dear"



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