Interior Archipelago – Postcards from Our Islands

The following images provide supporting context for Interior Archipelago – Postcards from Our Islands. The design project launched as a website for contributors from three international interior design programs (one which has two locations) to collect images representing multi-cultural interiors during Covid-19 lockdowns.

The following images show the website landing page, map with contributing programs, and a sampling of postcard images from contributors. Postcard images were uploaded as they were received chronologically rather than organized by region and program.

Students, faculty and staff from participating programs were invited to submit images during Covid-19 lockdowns. The images in figures 3 – 5 on the following pages show a selection of postcard images from the website collection. Submission guidelines included the following:

- Format: A6 postcard 148x105mm, 300 dpi, in portrait or landscape
- Quantity: 1–5 (maximum)
- Submission content can be virtual, physical, sequential, encounters, meeting places, rooms, body

Contributors were invited to include a title and brief description to accompany the images. These descriptions provided moments of reflection on the contributor’s gaze or thoughts at the moment. At times, these descriptions moved into narratives, revealing the multi-cultural and global views looking inward and outward of interiors during Covid-19.
Figure 3: Postcard submission images from contributing programs.

Self-isolation is the act of intentionally staying apart from others. Being just by yourself and with yourself in our comfortable and peaceful environment.
Figure 4: Postcard submission images from contributing programs.

We are face to face, but we are still apart.

The New Year 2019 in rural China is a quiet day in a deserted lane, broken only by the sound of a few homes' TVs.

Change: These are some of the spatial and behavioral changes associated with the new crown.

Confusion

Spy on: We peer through the window frames.

‘Work b:’ A makeshift desk that blends in with a laundry area.
Figures 5 – 7: Postcards exhibited at the partner university in China. The postcard layout and exhibition materials set the aesthetic for the following installation design at the Canadian university.
Figures 8: Location of exhibition in the Canadian university as shown through a longitudinal section. Installation is currently on hold until Covid-19 protocols allow for an in-person exhibition.
Figure 9: Enlarged elevation showing information wall, exhibition wall, writing desk and mail slot for sending postcards.
Figures 10: Detail view of postcard installation referencing similar materials, such as cork, used at the installation at the university in China.