



OPINION

One World: Staying at home with the internet will save us all



JOHN DOYLE > TELEVISION CRITIC

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This article was published more than 1 year ago. Some information may no longer be current.



inconceivable terror.” Well, yeah, but that was before the internet, wasn’t it?

In the matter of “inconceivable terror” the internet puts things back together, reassembles reality and presents a new version to us. We are all connected, even when in isolation, so things can’t be that bad, even in pandemic times.

So, along comes the globally streamed and televised *One World: Together at Home* (Saturday, 8 p.m. ET, on almost every channel in existence, including, at the last minute, CBC TV), which is a concert show for coronavirus relief. Its exact meaning remains to be seen, when it unfolds, mind you. It’s not a telethon. According to Global TV, it exists to “help fight boredom and simultaneously raise funds for the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund.”



It is curated by Lady Gaga and will feature live performances from famous musicians.

ABC

https://www.abc.com/news/2020-03-11/one-world-together-staying-at-home-with-the-internet-will-save-us-all/

Alanis Morissette and Shawn Mendes are part of it, along with Latin superstars J-Lo, Camila Cabello, J Balvin and Maluma, plus Andrea Bocelli, Lady Gaga, Paul McCartney and many more. This column lost count at 60-something performers. Take that, pandemic. You will wither in the face of this.

Also airing this weekend

Outer Banks (new on Netflix) is pure escapist content. Beautiful people, stunning location and a mystery. This comedy/drama/thriller will not exhaust or upset you in the least. Essentially an upmarket teen drama, it's set in the Outer Banks islands of North Carolina. A group of teens from the wrong side of the tracks – in this case, the wrong side of the water – hang out, scrape out a living and, then after a hurricane sweeps through the area, life gets interesting. They find a sunken boat and in it a key to a hotel room. In there, they find money and guns. That kick-starts the thriller element as it becomes clear they have become bit players in a much larger drama. Soon there are dangerous people after them as they, in turn, try to find that pot of gold that they know is hidden somewhere nearby. Very much a regional drama, but with some wit and beauty, it has been aptly summarized as, “Shirtless teens try to solve a mystery.”

Outer Banks on Netflix is a coming-of-age story that follows a tight-knit group of local teens in the beach vacation destination of the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

JACKSON DAVIS/COURTESY OF NETFLIX

After Circus (new on CBC Gem) is a beautifully made, charming and melancholy portrait (by Montreal filmmaker Viveka Melki) of aging performers in the traditional circus world. As performers on the old big-top circuit know, their world and their working lives are vanishing. Audiences expect fantasy and spectacle like Cirque du Soleil. The trapeze artists and others, some of them coming from generations of circus artists, are at the end of a tradition. Many live in trailer parks or small homes in Florida, and ruminate on the mystique to the circus as it declines and audiences disappear. None of them have gotten rich in their jobs. The film uses the old idea of escaping ordinary life to travel the circus, and

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Finally, this column continues with a “Stay-at-home-period daily-streaming pick.” Today’s pick is *Casual* (Crave). This brittle but sharp and adult comedy-drama is about life, love, family, friendship and figuring out that, if your parents screwed up, it’s up to you to make a better life. Executive-produced by Canadian Jason Reitman, it is mainly about a bachelor brother (Tommy Dewey) and his newly divorced sister (Michaela Watkins) living under one roof again. Together, they coach each other through the crazy world of dating while raising her teenage daughter (Tara Lynne Barr). All four seasons, with eight 30-minute episodes, are available.

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