

**“What ‘Do, Create, Live’ means in the Arts”  
Arts Panel  
International Disability Rights Affirmation Conference 2023  
November 10**

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[2023/11/10 12:04] LV (LoriVonne Lustre): Hello everyone.

Today's presentation is being transcribed so those without audio or who require text only can participate in real time.

Some speakers may be using a text teleprompter tool for some or all of their presentation. Transcriptionists will fill in any gaps and support the Question & Answer section at the end. A little explanation about this service.

Voice-to-text transcriptionists provide a translation of the key ideas discussed, NOT a word for word transcription.

Voice-to-text services provide an in-the-moment snapshot of ideas and concepts, so that those who are unable to hear or to understand the audio program are able to participate in real-time.

You will see the transcription in local chat.

Transcription is provided by Virtual Ability, Inc.

The transcriptionists are :

Lorivonne Lustre

Carolyn Carillon

The speakers will be identified by initials as they speak.

The following initials in the transcription record will identify the speakers:

IS: Itico Spectre (moderator)

DS: Don Setzer

DG: Daisy Gator

TE: Tarquin Evermore

[2023/11/10 12:07] LV (LoriVonne Lustre): <<transcription begins>>

[2023/11/10 12:07] Itico Spectre: Thank you all for attending this brief panel on art. Here with me I have some very different artists who create within and outside of Second Life.

In Second Life I am known as Itico.

I am visually impaired and have been moderately blind since birth.

I am an advocate for the disabled and elderly in first and Second Life.

I work with non-profits, am on the board of directors of a local Aging and Disability Resource Center but primarily I am a caretaker.

I am a published author and I develop games in Second Life that allow sighted and blind residents to play together.

Up here with me I have Daisy Gator, a published science fiction author, Don Setzer, a wheelchair dancer, and Tarquin Evermore who modifies Second Life avatar [clothing] and is

learning to make her own accessories. She also sews vintage clothing using vintage equipment in first life.

I have provided the panelists with the questions ahead of time so they could write out their answers.

[2023/11/10 12:09] LV (LoriVonne Lustre): The questions: 1. When did you decide to become an artist?

2. Being disabled, we need to do things a little differently than others. What changes do you make to help you do your art?

3. What motivates you to create?

4. Do you like to collaborate?

[2023/11/10 12:10] Itico Spectre: I will ask the questions out loud and in text for your benefit.

We ask that people hold all questions and comments during the panel.

If we have time, we will take questions at the end.

Daisy would you start us off by answering the first question; When did you decide to be an artist?

[2023/11/10 12:11] TheGator Resident: I'm not sure anyone decides to become an artist exactly. But I started writing and selling short stories about ten years ago.

You can read the latest one for free here: <https://zooscape-zine.com/sewers-of-new-york/>

Though lately I've been working on a novel.

It's set underwater on Jupiter's moon, Europa, within an isolated community of disabled people.

This community has no experience of an abled society. So the main character, Brad, is quite shocked when a spacecraft brings a crew of "normal" humans to his world.

He then has to struggle to save everyone he loves when these two very different cultures of abled and disabled people clash.

[2023/11/10 12:13] Itico Spectre: Thanks Daisy, how about you Tarquin?

[2023/11/10 12:13] Tarquin Evermore: I was always a creative person ever since I can remember. First I picked up drawing, then I picked up sewing when my Grandfather came home with the Singer 66 treadle. Finally a friend helped match me with a good teacher that helped me understand Blender despite a learning disability!

I am wearing a dress I have made in Blender based on an antique from the 1920s I own in real life.

[2023/11/10 12:14] Itico Spectre: Thank you Tarquin. Don?

[2023/11/10 12:14] Don Setzer: I became a dancer when I was in high school back in 1989 when I saw an article in Palestra magazine about a guy in a wheelchair choreographing a dance with someone's able body. I saw it is something I could do on the same level as anybody else. I took the article to my theater teacher and he thought about it for about two weeks and he agreed that I could take his dance class. Because of that decision I'm still dancing professionally 33 years later. I also have a BA degree in Dance from Texas Woman's University. Currently I dance and am on the board of directors with Beacon Dance in Atlanta, Georgia. I am also on the board of directors of National Dance Society.

[2023/11/10 12:15] Itico Spectre: Thank you Don.

Being disabled, we sometimes need to do things a little differently. What changes do you make to help you do your art? Tarquin starts this time.

[2023/11/10 12:15] Tarquin Evermore: My learning disability makes it so I have to do my art a bit differently than others. Like I said before, this mostly affects sewing. I have pictures hosted on Itico's website illustrating my tools I use and how I use them.

Link is here: <http://www.willhascall.com/Tarquin-Evermore.html>

The first picture is my sewing machine, the rest are my tools. I can answer questions about what they are if we got time.

[2023/11/10 12:15] Itico Spectre: Thank you Tarquin

[2023/11/10 12:17] TheGator Resident: I have dwarfism which doesn't significantly affect my communication skills so it doesn't make much difference to the way I write. What it does do is drastically alter \*what\* I write.

When your entire life is shaped by disability I think it's inevitably going to affect what you write.

[2023/11/10 12:17] Itico Spectre: Thank you Daisy

[2023/11/10 12:16] Don Setzer: One example [as to] how I adapt. In dance when I am taking class I have to take what the teacher's teaching and adapt the movement and learn it at the same time.

[2023/11/10 12:17] LV (LoriVonne Lustre): DS: I have to do a lot of adapting

[2023/11/10 12:18] Itico Spectre: Thank you Don. Next question is, what motivates you to create? Don, your turn to start.

[2023/11/10 12:18] Don Setzer: It is fun creating stories and telling things on stage. Sometimes I use music with lyrics and play off the lyrics with the movement. Other times there are no lyrics and [I am] still telling a story or theme. And there's other times [when I am] doing movement for movement's sake.

[2023/11/10 12:19] LV (LoriVonne Lustre): DS: It is fun

[2023/11/10 12:19] Itico Spectre: Thank you Don.

[2023/11/10 12:19] TheGator Resident: I've always read a lot, and loved books, so partly it's just a natural progression from reading to writing.

Though maybe I'm also trying to redress the balance of ableist fiction out there just a little bit.

[2023/11/10 12:19] Itico Spectre: Thank you Daisy.

[2023/11/10 12:20] Tarquin Evermore: I am motivated to create to simply create! I enjoy being an imaginative person. I love seeing what I imagine in my head come to "life" in fabric, and in Second Life.

[2023/11/10 12:20] Itico Spectre: Thank you Tarquin.

Last question. Do you like to collaborate? How about you answer first Don.

[2023/11/10 12:20] Don Setzer: Yes it can be fun collaborating. It is fun working with other choreographers and learning new things from them. It is also fun collaborating with musicians while they are composing music to your choreography. You can really play with things and ideas this way. If you need the music to be fast or slow the composer can change it for you. My last dance concert I directed I had this opportunity working with the composer and it was wonderful.

[2023/11/10 12:21] Itico Spectre: Thank you Don.

[2023/11/10 12:21] Zombie doggie (Tarquin Evermore): /me throws a marshmallow at Daisy

[2023/11/10 12:21] Daisy Gator (TheGator Resident): :D Yum!  
I think we're collaborating!

[2023/11/10 12:22] Tarquin Evermore: I also enjoy to collaborate with creative people with my Second Life projects, especially those who can script. I love seeing what I imagine not only come to life image wise, but to see what a scripting friend does to make it come alive with movement.

[2023/11/10 12:22] Itico Spectre: Thank you Tarquin.

[2023/11/10 12:22] TheGator Resident: Writing is a notoriously solitary business although that tends to change once the initial drafts are done.

So yes, beta readers are often still very useful, and if I sell a story the editor might want changes. It depends.

Some stories have been published with hardly a word changed. Others have had more significant edits.

The changes are always a negotiation though. Ultimately, as long as the story appears under your own name you have to have the ultimate say.

[2023/11/10 12:23] Itico Spectre: Thank you Daisy. As you see, being disabled in no way affects people's creativity. We may need to learn how to do something differently but our disabilities do not mean we are any less creative.

Thank you all for listening. We may take questions as time permits.

[2023/11/10 12:24] Gentle Heron: I want to congratulate all of you and let the audience know that I know that you each have far more creative outlets than time permitted you to share today. I'm thinking we need to expand these panels!

[2023/11/10 12:24] Lady Kirsten McLeod (KirstenMcLeod Resident): Yes!

[2023/11/10 12:24] Itico (Itico Spectre): :)

[2023/11/10 12:24] Faith Frances (Roxie Marten): I found being disabled brought [out] my creative side

[2023/11/10 12:25] Rhiannon Chatnoir: Gentle, how can we have collective, creative time I wonder  
in world

[2023/11/10 12:25] Gentle Heron: /me redirects that question to the panelists

[2023/11/10 12:24] Attica Bekkers: Tarquin I am excited.. I also use a manual machine because of my learning disabilities.. how did you come up with the tuck marker idea?

[2023/11/10 12:25] Carolyn Carillon: TE: Through research

I know that attachments existed

So I thought they'd help a lot

Search "tuck marker" on Etsy

Make sure it will fit your machine

It'll fit the majority of old Singers

[2023/11/10 12:25] Attica Bekkers: I will find one

Thank you

I have two very old singers

[2023/11/10 12:26] Zombie doggie (Tarquin Evermore): NIIICEEE

[2023/11/10 12:26] Faith Frances (Roxie Marten): we all run off to google :)

[2023/11/10 12:26] Rhiannon Chatnoir: for awhile I had a 1903 Singer treadle machine that had been electrified, but gifted it to a friend after awhile. It had all of the various attachments, there are so many!

[2023/11/10 12:27] Carolyn Carillon: TE: Electrifying machines was popular in the 20s

But you can convert it to hand crank

[2023/11/10 12:27] Gentle Heron: /me appreciates the speed control ability of treadle machines.

[2023/11/10 12:27] Zombie doggie (Tarquin Evermore): Same Gentle I can get them to stop on a dime!

[2023/11/10 12:28] Gentle Heron: Never put coins under your presser foot!

[2023/11/10 12:27] Attica Bekkers: can still get hand cranks on eBay

[2023/11/10 12:27] Faith Frances (Roxie Marten): I have my mother's Singer and taking lessons

[2023/11/10 12:27] Mook Wheeler: I have an old electrified Singer too-- Tarquin has seen pics of it! :)

[2023/11/10 12:27] Zombie doggie (Tarquin Evermore): I helped her ID it

[2023/11/10 12:28] Mook Wheeler: yes! :)

[2023/11/10 12:27] Rhiannon Chatnoir: it still had the wheel and the actual treadle.. I had to get a belt for it.. but the old machines are so amazing and beautiful too

[2023/11/10 12:28] Zombie doggie (Tarquin Evermore): Rhiannon: you can find them on eBay and Etsy. They still make them.

Sewing machine belts, not attachments :3

[2023/11/10 12:28] Carolyn Carillon: IS: Most creativity in SL is collaborative

When I started building, I needed someone who could do pictures

That's how I met my partner

Scripting is the same

[2023/11/10 12:29] Attica Bekkers: scripting is the same, true

[2023/11/10 12:29] Carolyn Carillon: IS: I'm impressed with how many SL users use manual sewing machines (Laughs)

[2023/11/10 12:29] Faith Frances (Roxie Marten): Nothing wrong with manual tools. I am a wood worker and love them

[2023/11/10 12:29] Gentle Heron: Thank you panel, we do need to move on.  
But I have a feeling we will see you all again.

[2023/11/10 12:29] Carolyn Carillon: LV: thanks panels  
It's been so informative

[2023/11/10 12:29] Minka Angel (Saraminka Nova): Applause ★ Applause ★  
Applause

[2023/11/10 12:29] Sasy Scarborough: thank you

[2023/11/10 12:29] Mook Wheeler: That was great! Thank you panel!

[2023/11/10 12:29] Gingerjoy (Joycie String): Thank you very much!

[2023/11/10 12:29] Carolyn Carillon: <<transcription ends>>