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Contemporary Arts Practice and Outer Space: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach (3)

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ART-EMMIHS PROJECT: ENGAGING THE GENERAL PUBLIC TOWARDS LUNAR
EXPLORATION THROUGH ART

Abstract

It is no longer just science-fiction: humans have started working on concrete projects towards the colonization of space, with the possibility of a functional Moon Village by the end of this century! Building such a village requires a lot of research not just in scientific and technological aspects, but also cultural and psychological aspects.

One way to test human readiness for long duration space missions is through analogue simulations, in Moon-Mars analogue environments such as at HI-SEAS (Hawai'i Space Exploration Analog and Simulation), a Habitat owned by the International MoonBase Alliance, located on an isolated Moon/Mars-like site on the Northern slope of the Mauna Loa Volcano (Hawai'i, USA) at approximately 8200 feet above sea level. The EMMIHS campaigns are a collaboration between the International Lunar Exploration Working Group (ILEWG)'s EuroMoonMars initiative, IMA and HI-SEAS.

The author took part in the third EMMIHS campaign as crew-commander-in-training and onboard artist. Apart from several scientific studies, she also performed several artistic experiments including filming for the ILEWG Moon Gallery project and produced artwork depicting her stay during the mission. These works come under the project tag of "Art-EMMIHS" (pronounced "Artemis") and will be used for outreach for lunar exploration with ILEWG.

The present paper presents the art projects undertaken during the mission, and the public impact during outreach activities and exhibitions.