

Transcending Societal Issues for Space Exploration (12)
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SCIENCE OUTREACH THROUGH ART: EXPERIENCE AS AN SCIENTIST-ARTIST IN PUBLIC
ENGAGEMENT

Abstract

Art has proved time and again to be a powerful medium in engaging public interest in technical scientific research, especially on the subject of space. Through this paper the author would like to bring to light the artistic side of technical scientific research by present the results of her work during various opportunities.

For example as an artist-in-residence at the European Geosciences Union (EGU), which is one of the leading organisations for Earth, planetary and space science research in Europe. The exhibition of the artwork done in collaboration with scientists would be held during the congress in May 2021. The author has used this unique residency experience to visually portray the research in geo and planetary sciences, with a special focus on Antarctica and Climate Science.

She is also using this opportunity as a preparation for public outreach for her upcoming voyage to Antarctica in November 2021 with the Homeward Bound initiative, a Forbes-featured global 12-month leadership initiative for women with a background in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine), which aims to equip a 1000-strong collaboration of women with the skills to demonstrate a new model of leadership, to create better outcomes for our planet.

Apart from depicting women in STEMM, she would also be using this opportunity to break the stereotypes about the imaginary line between art and science - which is but a grey zone with a lot of scope for exploration. Having first learned to code when she was 14 while playing around with some Hypotrochoid equations, the same that one observes in planetary motions, the author realised that algorithms could also be used for creating startling images. This newfound motivation that let her to mix Art and Science has set the basis for her work in the last decade, also earning her a place in the Forbes India 30 under 30 list in 2021.