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### **Neon Heater Curation Short Essay**

As the pandemic unfolds and people stay inside, people are starting to see how the environment is benefiting from this. Areas with high tourism are cleaning up, and less fossil fuels are being burned as fewer people are driving. For years, humans have been destroying the environment for our personal gain and many people did not realize how bad it was because of how normalized it has become. Recently, more and more awareness has been brought to the matter, encouraging the restoration of environments. As the pandemic brings attention to environmental matters, many art pieces surrounding this matter are also produced. During this time, we are continuing to stay inside and socially distance.

The Neon Heater Exhibition will feature various pieces that pertain to this matter. This includes pieces by Ron Lambert, Kellie Bornhoft, and Adam Eddy. Each of the pieces are environmentally focused, though each piece is unique in the sense that they use different mediums, and likely try to invoke a different reaction from the audience than one another. Each piece has a different meaning behind it, whether it be about growth or destruction.

“Circle” is a piece composed by Rob Lambert. This piece is made up of concrete, steel, hazard tape, and digital print. It was composed in 2019. It shows a circle on three sticks, with a print of trees and nature covered by aluminum and the hazard tape. One can assume that this has to do with the effects of global warming. His other piece, titled “Promise Mountain,” is made

from mirrored glass, steel hydrocal, and mirrored glass. Seeing this piece, it is clear that Lambert is trying to show the audience that humans have strong control over nature, and this could end up going awry.

Artist, Kellie Bornhoft, is currently working on a piece titled "Sediment". Sediment is a video installation with rocks. In this piece, there is representation of fossil fuels and it being extracted from the ground. Within the video, there would be performance with the rocks and the soil. It is essentially an approach to see how humans relate to the ground, and how everything is changing and being rearranged due to climate change.

Adam Eddy has multiple pieces that are being considered for this exhibition. These include "Rainbow Line with Four Points," "Pool with Orange Border," and "Blue Pietà". All of which are mixed media paintings. Eddy's pieces show us a view of the natural world after humans tragically leave. It shows that humans will build, then they will abandon. Seeing that this would happen in a dystopian future, it would happen in an era where humans have destroyed the earth. Each piece by Eddy gracefully compliments one another with the aesthetic and color. Everyday items are used within these to represent humans.

Each of the pieces are unique and different in their own way, yet manage to be tied together by the topic of nature destruction and climate change. Each of the pieces are vastly different as each uses a completely different medium but this helps make for an interesting show with a diverse selection of pieces. This pandemic brings a time where people are becoming more aware of climate change, allowing for each of these pieces to be more powerful when trying to reach the audience. The impact will greatly resonate with the audience and make for a unique show.