

Auroville Bulletin 7: A Summary of Events Happening in Auroville Today

21st February 2022

Auroville 'Silence Festival' during Birthday Week : An opportunity for reflection in silence.

Greetings to all on Mother's Birthday.

Today and the rest of this week offers us all an opportunity to stop and reflect on our current situation.

Many residents feel that the 'Auroville Festival 2022' is inappropriate at this moment in time due to the current and ongoing upheaval. Instead, some are making a call for a 'Silence Festival'

The Silence Festival is a call for a common introspection in silence in order to foster an inner connection so that we may hopefully move forward in a more conscious way together.

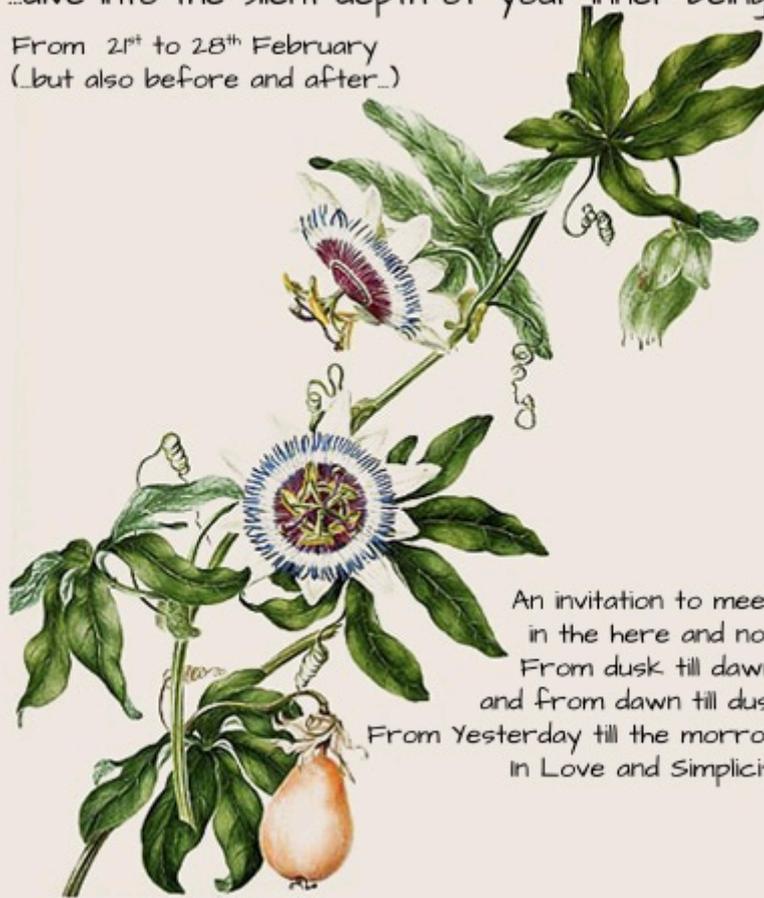
A number of residents have voiced that having celebratory events and talks at this time, whilst ignoring that our collective is fractured, is not helpful. Particularly as some of the planned events such as the clearing and walking of the crown road, despite the stay order which strictly forbids such actions, potentially exacerbate the current tension and divide.



Auroville Silence Festival

...dive into the silent depth of your inner being...

From 21st to 28th February
(...but also before and after...)



An invitation to meet
in the here and now
From dusk till dawn
and from dawn till dusk
From Yesterday till the morrow
In Love and Simplicity

"In silence lies the greatest receptivity.
And in an immobile silence the vaster action is done.
Let us learn to be silent so that the Lord may make use of us." Mother

Other updates:

- **Clarification letter from Fabienne:** Fabienne has posted a heartfelt letter to the community which clarifies and rebuts many of the unsubstantiated accusations that have been made against her in recent months. You can read the full text of the letter [here](#).
- **Corrected link for Questionnaire:** In our last bulletin we sent you a link for a questionnaire called 'What has stalled development for the last 20 years'. Unfortunately the link did not work properly, so [here](#) is the correct one.
- **Activist posters:** This morning several posters were placed in their Auroville area as a response to the recent events. The text accompanying the art is as follows:

“Artist's anguish at recent events that unfolded in the peaceful Community of Auroville, is expressed in the unique vocabulary of the culture of this region. Death or announcement of a demise of an individual, here, the Artist announcing his Own, is seen as a Rebirth here. An expression of Loss or Sorrow that brings healing eventually, A death that connects the artist with Infinity. The stark black and white vocabulary with letter forms that connects artist's calligraphy minimalist art to culturally appropriate, regional mainstream mass graphics practice of an announcement of Loss, speaks strongly against the Colorful loud language of hollowness of theme & the timing of these festivities; that when the Community is going through the toughest moments of divisions within the process of its evolution and existence! Celebrations here are reminiscent of the Funeral procession and using an established contemporary expression to demonstrate the insensitivity of a festivity in times of distress, speaks of Artist's understanding of Auroville and evolution of its bio region immensely where these polarities are juxtaposed in the public spaces of the township! Through this unique theme and aesthetics of this protest, the artist questions the flawed timing of this provocative festival through a matching language that negates the colors of the banners in the face, as well as the sensitivity of the organisers within the spiritual paradigm of Auroville. The artist is a Calligrapher, architect, activist and a resident of Auroville, with special interest in Confrontational Art Installations on Community themes that aim to awaken the silent majority of the Community”

Although most of the posters have now been taken down, you can see the content [here](#).

We are a group of Aurovilians who are actively involved in understanding the current crisis situation in Auroville in order to find a way forward together.

We stand for:

- Respecting our community processes for decision-making
- A collaborative approach in developing Auroville using integrated methods such as the Dreamweaving initiative
- Transparency and fairness in the organisation of Auroville
- Creating unity with our diverse voices

Please note that the website <https://standforaurovilleunity.com/> contains a great deal of information and a detailed timeline.

With regard to future actions, those who have particular skills such as writing, social media, film editing etc - you are welcome to write to evolvingalaxy@gmail.com.

We hope this has been helpful. Let's keep working to find a way to bring us closer together to the beautiful dream of human unity in Auroville. We can do it... together.

