

Clive Davis the arts column

Theatres and cinemas will have to do more to win over

There's sadness, but there's resilience too. The most chastening thing I read this week was an interview in *The Stage* with young performers who have been making ends

meet during lockdown by working in shops. "I'm currently selling t-shirts in Croydon," says the



That's the spirit!

As I write this I'm getting ready to put on a different kind of judging hat. I'll be at the Oxo Tower this week helping to judge the entries for the Chaiya Art award, a visual arts competition with a non-denominational spiritual theme.

It's the second time I've been on the panel, alongside such people as the photographer Marcus Lyon. There were more than 700 entries this year. Part of the fun of discussing the entries with my fellow panellists last time was discovering how different our notions of the word "spiritual" were. There was even an air of transgression in being encouraged to use the word in the first place. (I'm an agnostic, by the way, but have an obsession with that Berkshire mystic Stanley Spencer.)

In media circles, art seems to have become synonymous with money and status recently. It's good to be reminded that it has other meanings too.

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and concerts presented by young producers

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