Just Ask Yourself

On thinking about the nature of dialogue, and ultimately initiating a dialogue with myself about the concept and my perception of dialogue, it dawned on me that we have become inundated by images, information, concepts and messages, systematically thrown at us every time we change directions. So it’s no surprise that the layers of all these conflicting dialogue’s become so heavy, we find ourselves numbed to process of the actual interaction. Our senses are so tired from over exhaustion that we fall into a complacent state of existence, just glancing over experiences because we don’t trust the integrity of anything. We have become desensitized to the power of dialogue because most of the dialogue we have from day to day, is an accepted but insincere reality we simply endure. Why, because everyone is trying to sell us something or has some hidden agenda. Human interaction is becoming more and more a product of its capitalist framework; an outcome fixated, benefit-measuring factory of calculated interaction based on necessity.

But how do you make a change to something so profound, something so consuming? You don’t. You facilitate a change. On a small scale. On an individual scale. If people are distrusting or disinterested to the idea of new dialogue then don’t start a conversation with them, give them a reason to start one for themselves. If people won’t listen to what you want to say, give them something to talk about.

Just Ask Yourself is about this idea; facilitating people’s desire to interact with making their own dialogue. It is about inspiring the innocent curiosity that drives individuals to find out for themselves, to find their own ideas; the most intimate of dialogues.

Video painting is a form of projection whereby a computer program allows a projector, by tracking the position of electronic paint rollers, to project video wherever the paint roller moves, creating an illusion that an artist is painting videos onto a surface. This medium is perfect as it taps into an already appreciated and culturally significant form of art and self-expression, namely graffiti. This, mixed with a modern technological innovation creates an intriguingly original yet accessible form of expression. The campaign would exist as an inter-university network, in conjunction with various libraries, whereby the students are able to submit works, which they can then video paint onto the very face of the buildings they use everyday. The Universities and Libraries become the canvas, for the students who frequent them, to create an ongoing dialogue with their fellow students. It’s about giving students a voice, and a reason to use that voice, by creatively asking the world around them about issues that concern them.

It is not so much the artworks themselves that I believe are the key but about creating a space of dialogue that plays out on the very façade of our physical worlds. It’s about bridging the gap between our physical world and our conceptual world, in the hopes that we will find a desire to explore that connection and find our own perception of reality. What better place to use than an institution where people come to learn the knowledge that will shape the rest of their lives; a place where people are already searching for new dialogues?

Ultimately the campaign has no intrinsic borders and therefore could exist in any city, in any country, anywhere in world. Imagine a collective movement carried by the worlds leading learning institutions, in which they help to orchestrate and facilitate an ongoing, ever growing platform for progressive dialogues, created by and for the very students that attend those institutions. This campaign would be very beneficial to the institutions that choose to take part, by allowing them to actively engage with the people using their services on a much deeper and more open level. Through providing a place for public rhetoric and ongoing dialogues, these institutions, would be strengthening the relationship they have with their patrons, ultimately creating a much more intimate and positive connection with the minds that will become the innovators and progressive thinkers of our future.
Just Ask Yourself

Jurassic Park
Star Wars
Star Trek
Kiss
Avengers
Rolling Stone Magazine
Uncle Sam
The Doors
Coca Cola
Internet Explorer
Pulp Fiction
Back to the Future
Be The Change You Want To See In Yourself
On Monday
He ate through
Four apples
But it still
Wasn't enough
ON MONDAY
HE ATE THROUGH
FOUR APPLES
BUT IT STILL
WASN'T ENOUGH