

The Otherness of Everything

Otherness, difference, alternate ways of being.
Our specialties make our species.
And so our species makes.

Many lifetimes ago we decided a name.
Up went the high, into temples and glory (this was *art*).
Down tumbled the low, into a cavernous pit (this was *not*).

That dark, dingy hole is a sensitive spot.
It is where *The Museum of Everything* makes its bed.
Its earthy bosom comforts humankind's most spontaneous creators.

Secret storytellers who don't fit—or need to fit—into *art's* uptight ways.

They are:

- preachers,
- protestors,
- doll-makers,
- diarists,
- sign-painters,
- spiritualists,
- inventors,
- woodcarvers,
- aviators,
- and poets.

Their studio is the cave, the bedroom, the hospital.
Their galleries are garages, fields, and streets.
They are their own audiences, critics, and collectors.
They build replacement kingdoms.
They sing monologues to the sky.

No wonder their champions are Breton, Dubuffet, Szeeman, and Barr.
Only artists and pioneers fly to private galaxies far beyond the contemporary.
Most museum directors don't have time for all that.

So at best, these are naïve, art brut, outsiders.
And at worst, they're the primitive, disabled, insane.
The names become truths.
The truths become prisons.
Who these invisible citizens are, how they create, what they have to say, and why...
It is all suddenly irrelevant.

They are not *artists*.
They are not making *art*.
They are simply *something else*.

Hence separate shows, separate collections, separate museums.
A thousand years of silent segregation.
This delicate, democratic species.
Dismissed in one tiny, terrifying word.

The *art*-less low, who make because they must, for themselves, not for us, they are not low at all.
They simply dream without destination.
And in so doing, reveal what *art* cast aside.

That absolute authenticity.
That inner gaze made outward.
The unsettling directness of a voice which silently shouts *I am somebody*.

They are *artists*.
They are making *art*.
They cannot be *anything else*.

Organization/Curator
The Museum of Everything

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Invited Exhibitors
The Museum of Everything
The Salon of Everything
Carlo Zinelli



Calvin and Ruby Black *Untitled (Museum tickets 25c)*, c. 1960-70
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Exhibition #11, Paris, 2012-13
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Exhibition #11, Paris, 2012-13
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Exhibition #1, London 2009
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Morton Bartlett *Untitled*, ca. 1950-60
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Exhibition #5, Kazan, 2012
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Carlo Zinelli *Untitled*, 1966
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