TO ARTADEMICS: A MANIFESTO

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WE SAY NO MORE WORDS!

CAST OFF THE MASKS OF DISCOURSE AND DEBATE AND EMBRACE THE POWER OF THE IMAGE TO COMMUNICATE IDEAS.

IMAGES HAVE BEEN OPPRESSED FOR TOO LONG BY DOMINANT

IDEOLOGICAL MODES OF ADDRESS, THE WRITTEN WORD.

IMAGES WERE DRIVEN OUT OF USE

BY PURITANS LOGIC, AND STILL LIVE ON THE MARGINS, EDGES AND BORDERS OF ACADEMIC DISCOURSE.

LITERACY HAS STAMPED ITS WAY ACROSS THE DRAWN LANDSCAPE DESPOILING THE EMBLEMS OF CONCRETE THOUGHT. WE ARE FORCED TO DEFEND OUR COGNITIVE TERRITORY USING THE LANGUAGE OF THE OPPRESSOR! WE DEMAND AN END TO THE TYRANNY OF LOGIC, HYPOTHESIS AND PROOF. WE CALL ON THE LYRICAL NATURE OF IMAGES TO CONVEY MORE NUANCED TRUTHS ABOUT OUR SENSE OF THE WORLD.

DEATH TO DIAGRAMS, WHICH PANDER TO THE FALSE LOGIC OF THE LABORATORY,

AND WHICH EXCLUDE SO MUCH TO DEFINE SO LITTLE.

WE DISPUTE THE SUBSERVIENCE OF IMAGES TO TEXT.

THEIR MUTENESS

WAS NEVER A COMPLIANCE WITH THE VERBAL HEGEMONY.

THEIR SILENCE IS THE PAUSE

IN THE BARRAGE OF WORDS, WHICH ALLOWS MEANING TO BREATHE.

THIS MEDITATIVE SPACE AFFORDS

THE READER OF VISUAL TEXTS SOMEWHERE WHERE MANY POSSIBLE MEANINGS MAY CO-EXIST.

WORDS WORDS WORDS... TOO MANY WORDS.

TO THE TRAMMELS OF THE GRID, WHEREAS DRAWING ALLOWS OUR THOUGHTS TO SOAR.

IMAGES BEGIN TO TRANSGRESS THE BORDERS AND GUTTERS,

THE GHETTOES OF DISCOURSE. THEY INVADE THE GRID

AND WIND THEIR WAY INTO WORDS,

FUSING WITH THE TEXT,

DRAWING ATTENTION TO WORDS AS VISIBLE SIGNS.

ECONOMY OF EXPRESSION AND THOUGHT.

A LINE DESCRIBING AN IDEA. (MATISSE)

METHODOLOGIES ENGENDER LOSS OF AUTONOMY.

I MUST CREATE MY OWN SYSTEMS
OR BE ENSLAV'D BY ANOTHER MAN'S. (BLAKE)

SOME IMAGES ARE NOT SURE IF THEY ARE WORDS.

SOME WORDS WOULD LIKE TO BE IMAGES

AMBIGUITY AND DIFFERENCE SHOULD LEAD TO SYNERGY,

NOT ENERVATION.

THE NOTION THAT LANGUAGE IS A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR KNOWLEDGE

IS AN ILLUSION.

THE SHIFTING SANDS, AND SLIPPERY NATURE OF WORDS DO NOT HELP US

IN UNTANGLING OUR BODILY EXPERIENCE OF THE WORLD.

PICTURE WRITING

SYSTEMS ARE STABLE FORMATS FOR IDEAS TO BE EXPRESSED.

TRANSCRIBING THOUGHT PHONETICALLY WILL ALWAYS RESULT IN MIS-HEARINGS.

CHINESE WHISPERS ERODE

AND MUTATE MEANINGS. ACROSS TIME TERMINOLOGY OUTGROWS ITS STRENGTH.