



YOUR HONEST AND IMPARTIAL LOCAL FREE PAPER.

NORMS

QUESTIONS



EXCLUSIVE

Many norms are based on rumour or myths that rely on naivety so the rich can take care of the rich whilst the proles live a life of blissful ignorance. Nothing will ever change unless we all start to question and to decide what is right for our own lives and not the 1%. I question why art funding is down and celebrity culture is rising. Distracting us from something that encourages open thinking and questioning. Most people prefer to turn a blind eye to the questions because they prefer to stay ignorant, it is the easy option. I could go on, into war and religion, smoking and drinking. But to make this relevant to my practice I have



QUESTION

QUALITY

question everything, all the time, to question the norms, question your norms and to always keep questioning them and always be open to change and information. Why is something normal? Whose interests does it serve that something be normal? What does normal even mean? Something that we don't think about, don't question, are expected to do, for government or corporate control and distraction. Many norms are based on rumour or myths that rely on naivety so the rich can take care of the rich whilst the proles live a life of blissful ignorance.



It was suggested last week by a group of urban explorers that there is infact more to the city of Manchester than we may be seeing and experiencing on an everyday basis. This controversial statement came after photographs were released which it was claimed were taken below the ground in manchester . The explorers said their discoveries were a result of taking back the control of the city from the authorities and questioning no entry signs in order to experience the real city and not the sterile shopping centres we are directed to and distracted by. There is, according to the secretive group , a mass of so called off limits places which contain important historical evidence which is being allowed to rot away and be forgotten in favour of a more "fashionable" history and culture in sterile museum conditions with their own agendas

THIS IS MANCHES



TRAIN TICKET SCANDAL

Both Manchester Victoria and Piccadilly train stations were taken over by a rogue set of train tickets which on the surface look quite real but in fact these tickets contain messages encouraging us to re-look at the city and question normalities. It is unknown who is behind these interventions but it is understood that the size and style is in line with the idea that the perpetrator is likely to be asking us to look more closely at the details around us and explore what they mean.



THE Explorer

DECEMBER 2013. WWW.NIC-HILDITCH.COM



Confusion and terror took over in Manchester city centre yesterday as a power cut left several high profile landmark buildings appearing to “Flash and Glitch” leading many people to question whether or not these buildings are even real and if not what else are they not telling us? Larry sharpe from Blackley said “ I was just out shopping with the wife as usual and all of a sudden the Hilton building started to break up and move, appearing almost invisible at one point, at first I thought it was another one of those terrorism acts the papers keep telling us about”.The big question everyone was left with was the honesty of the council and large corporations who took money from other local projects to build what was billed as a landmark for the people of Manchester. If this building infact is just a projection then where has our money gone? What else have we been naive to whilst distracted by this and other large scale tax funded projects. It asks the question who actually controls our city and what say do we even have. Distracted by one direction concerts at the “Phones 4 u” arena as it is now known what would happen if we started to ask these questions and decided to explore these buildings and our city and find the real places instead of being herded into the Arndale?



CONFUSION AFTER LANDMARK APPEARS TO “FLICKER” SEVERAL TIMES

ACTUALLY REAL?

TOWER

IS BETHAM



A recent spate of billboard vandalism and fly posting has caused controversy over the way it has brought up uncomfortable questions about our society and the norms we live our lives by. Many people interviewed said they chose to ignore this intervention as they said they “couldn’t be bothered” to ask questions and think about their lives in this way. However



BILLBOARD

WANDALS

STRIKE

AGAIN

TELLING US TO ASK
UNCOMFORTABLE QUESTIONS WE
WOULD RATHER IGNORE

some said it encouraged them to ask why something is a normality and how that happens. Who a normality serves and whose best interests a normality is created for. Whether or not we get the most out of our lives, our world , it's people , animals and environment . An anonymous message was left next to the billboard stating "I will strike again, next time bigger and better!" So we will keep an eye out.



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LOOK AGAIN

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TOUGHER PUNISHMENTS TO CAUSE DISRUPTION TO



Recently there have been a number of false publications being found in and around Manchester and one even being found as far away as Sweden. Council and media officials are asking the public to be vigilant and keep an eye out for any such publication. Here are images of one such poster found out.

It is highly likely this activist will strike again and may well use a different format to avoid detection. Morris Bernham of The Sun said "It is dangerous to pick up and read or view such publications as they appear to be questioning our city and encouraging free thinking, clearly non government sanctioned messages which do not involve deceit and distraction start a dangerous precedent and awakening." Clearly the worry is that the general public will realise their power as consumers and start to make decisions for themselves which will destabilise industries that rely on blind assumption. Done be fooled, do as you told



ARCHAEOLO DISCOVER FORGOTTEN



The industrial revolution was such an important part of the history and development of Manchester, yet a lot of the factories and buildings of that era are either being left to rot and eventually demolished without a second thought, or redeveloped into banal and sterile apartments or office blocks which only superficially, if ever, refer back to the buildings past. I feel the message behind these signs is to take it upon yourself and find these hidden cultural sign posts hidden all around Manchester, in the details you will find the real Manchester, a Manchester which had a global impact on politics and placed itself on the map. Not one dominated by generic shops and malls which could be anywhere in the world." So, here we have two sides to this mystery, which do we decide to believe. Either way this find has got a lot of people talking and a lot of people interested in seeking out what is unique about Manchester.

Speculation is rife in the area as to what the sign is actually advertising and what the origins are after the records for tenants of Oldham street were lost in the 1960's. The owners of a stall in near by Aflecks Palace had this input. "No Fly Posters is such a strange thing to see on a sign of this style and era, it makes you wonder the significance of what was found and if it tells us much more about Victoria Manchester." However not all are convinced by these finds. Some rumours have surfaced that these are in fact modern fakes created out of materials found in the city then screenprinted with a mock sign attempting to replicated the style of the era suggested. One such person mentioned the fact that the sign appears to have "1988" and not "1888" below as was first thought. DR Paul Engels of MMU's history of art program had this response. "Clearly what we see here is a play on history and era. I believe the person behind this is showing us that things of this era still do exist in this city and they are being overlooked and forgotten."

Excitement filled the local historical and archaeology worlds recently as fragments of signage were found on Oldham Street in Manchester's Northern Quarter this week thought to date back to 1888 and the height of Manchester's famous industrial revolution. As Paul's hair world, which burnt down earlier this year, was being refurbished work was swiftly halted as construction workers uncovered these fascinating new finds. One of the pieces appears to be on a piece of glass speculated to have been part of a factory operating in the area in the mid to late 19th century. Professor Henry White of Manchester University had this to say " Finds of this nature are rare these days given the amount of development Manchester has seen over the last few decades, but the buildings around the Northern Quarter and Ancoats are particularly important in what they represent of Manchester's industrial past. To have found such a large section of glass intact after more than 100 years is an amazing find and one which will tell us so much about the materials they had at hand and the printing processes they have used." This exciting development comes weeks after a similar sign was found on what appears to be Victoria era wallpaper in the Ancoats area.

TOURISM OFFICIALS LEFT ANGERED OVER "REAL" MANCHESTER POSTCARDS

POSTCARD RAGE!



Groups of tourists were left "upset and confused" yesterday as they purchased several packages of postcards from local tourist shops and the main tourist information centre near Piccadilly gardens which turned out to be fake. One of the offending articles, see above text, appears to include an actual image of Manchester and in an even more bizarre twist to have been designed AND printed by someone from the city. Council officials branded this "Scandalous and harmful". Councillor Peter Tool said "We must not allow the people of Manchester any control over how they view and portray this city, we have sanctioned images to be used in publicising this city and they are to be designed by our team in Brussels. It's unnerving to think that some unwitting tourists might have sent these all across the globe, the people who receive them might get the impression Manchester is somewhere that is real, with history and places that do not conform to our process of generic cleansing. We want Manchester to be a place people can come to and not have to think, we provide the same shops as everywhere else, what more do you need?" Clearly this is a matter which needs to be addressed as soon as possible and tourists should always be aware to never visit anywhere not on council produced maps and always to cross check those locations with any products purchased. More to follow.

A black and white photograph of a narrow alleyway between tall brick buildings. The perspective is looking down the alley, with a sidewalk on the right and a road on the left. The buildings have many windows, some with dark shutters. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows and highlights.

**NICOLA
HILDITCH
SHORT**

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2013**