

TEXT-ME-UP!

Tracey Moberly

Text messages are like little sugar rushes of contact, postcards for the people's cyberspace...

Artist Tracey Moberly has saved every single text message she has ever been sent. Text-Me-Up! is an autobiographical work in the author's words and images, and the texts of others. Whether it be partaking in maggot racing in Moscow, having a revelatory experience in a Haitian Vodou temple, or becoming Sex and the City's Carrie Bradshaw for a night out in New York - Tracey takes the text message into another dimension. The book is a zeitgeist journey through popular culture over the last decade, from the underground to mainstream in the worlds of both music and art. Her web of text messages incorporates and weaves around some of popular culture's key figures, positioning them in place and time, including: Banksy, Bill Drummond, Howard 'Mr. Nice' Marks, Irvine Welsh, Tony Benn, Aiden Shaw, Pete Doherty, John Sinclair, Mark Thomas, Carl Barat and many more...

Tracey is an interdisciplinary artist, writer, radio show producer/host and was co-owner of legendary art and music hangout, the Foundry, in Shoreditch, London. She lectures in Interactive Arts, Fine Art and Politics/Activism, and exhibits her work prolifically. Moberly has taken one of the newest, most popular forms of communication and used it as a starting point from which to examine her life, crafting a work that straddles art, literature, technology and popular culture.

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cover photo by Antony Crook

'Tracey Moberly's project is a fascinating use of new technology as a narrative tool, much in the spirit of Andy Warhol's work with Polaroids.'

Angie Bowie

'The work of Tracey Moberly continually evolves in both challenging and beautiful ways. Text-Me-Up! distils some of her work over the past ten years in all of those challenging and beautiful ways. Embrace it now. Feel it inside you.'

Bill Drummond

'Tracey Moberly's Text-Me-Up! is a brilliant multi-media, multi-dimensional work of memoir with fiendishly collected text messages from day one teeming with images of friends & events in the chronicle that makes a unique, purely 21st-century literary form of considerable depth and fun.'

John Sinclair

'Tracey is my favourite British artist - the most important in my life. In Text-Me-Up! she playfully explores linguistics, art, modernity and politics.'

Mark Thomas

'I'm loving this ... great work.'

Martyn Ware

'Text-Me-Up! is a witty, sharp and visceral diary of one person's life, recorded in the short and punchy 'soundbites' of text messages. More than just a record of personal exchange, it provides an essential document of contemporary social and cultural changes, instigated by technology.'

Dazed & Confused William Oliver

'Moberly's output in a dizzying range of media is unceasing.'

The Independent

'The world of text messages from some obscure and intriguing angles.'

The Times

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23:47> Missin you
07:13> IN OK
10:11> * THE SAME USED THEN YET?
10:10> YOU WISH YOU MUST'VE BEEN USING THEN WRONG!
17:20> HAVE A GOOD TRIP TO TIP
10:35> BE CAREFUL & HAVE FUN
10:42> BEWARE THE JARBERMAN WHE
15:52> NEEDS MUST WHEN THE DEV
15:54> IS THAT WHY ITS CALLED
15:57> ABOUT TO DESCEND TOM
16:06> I'M A NYMPHOMANIAC
16:30> YOU'VE GONE QUIET!
17:37> IM GETTING FLEG
19:31> DORNING THE FLEG
02:13> VERY STONED UE
03:34> WAKE ME UP B
19:00> ON A MISSION
19:04> ROGER C U B
19:55> WHERE ARE YO
22:13> IM MAKING Y
23:10> THE TAPE I
19:04> WORK YOU BU
09:00> HOW ARE YOU
20:00> ARE YOU WORK
20:11> WHERE?
20:01> LOADS
20:30> IM BUILDING A
20:36> WHERE ARE YOU
20:42> THIS IS MY
10:15> WR'PPEN 2

