



## OPENING RECEPTION

Saturday, September 12, 2015

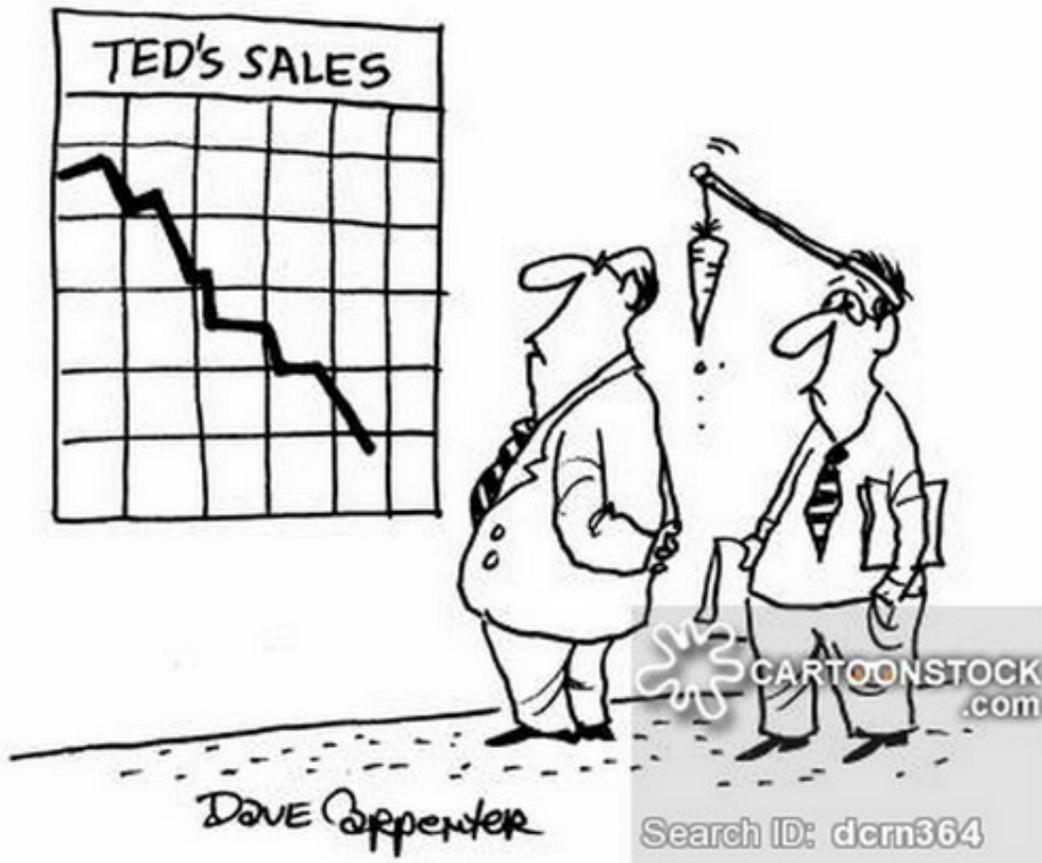
6 - 9pm

September 12 – October 31, 2015

This exhibition turns the gallery space into a communal workspace, a hive of individuals with self-ascribed tasks. You can watch people gently performing themselves working, not so different from the scene at your nearest café, where you may surround oneself with the atmosphere of productivity to help fuel your own.

The parameters of success become twofold: the day-to-day running of the space and the entire project seen from the perspective of art. The role of the artists in this show becomes a balancing act, of nurturing and protecting both hot desking environment and the art show, never allowing one to be consumed or damaged by the other.

*Workland: the fence is a narrow place* swings back and forth in the gap between boom and bust, across the writ-large landscapes of things-we-tell-ourselves. While the emphasis in the workplace has moved away from financial incentives, in the art world it is moved towards them. The skills of an artist today are more likely to resemble upper management than an understanding of light and color. The knowledge-based worker is an artist, artists are knowledge based workers.



**“Ted, I think we need to re-evaluate  
your carrot.”**

...Ted, I have sold myself on the idea that art/work can be the sum total, that it has within it the potential for practical and spiritual renewal, the mechanism to construct a more humane existence, the chance to achieve balance not for the sake of it, but because it is rich territory to be mined for hidden value, the only limitation being my own creativity.

...and while the symptoms to this are often neurosis, anxiety and cold sweats, I am committed.

## **Commitment**

“Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven’t found it yet, keep looking. Don’t settle. As with all matters of the heart, you’ll know when you find it. And, like any great relationship, it just gets better and better as the years roll on. So keep looking until you find it. Don’t settle.”  
Steve Jobs



Steve Jobs is the birth father of Lisa Brennan who he did not take responsibility for, forcing her mother Chrisann Brennan out of their shared home into employment cleaning houses during her pregnancy. During this time he would work on The Lisa, the first home computer to use a graphical interface and establish himself as one of the major forces in computing.

Hannah: The history and present condition of labor is the history of class, evidently, but also of race, which has served to structure the landscape of work: the foundational stolen body of the black slave; the racial logic of colonial accumulation; racialized unemployed “surplus populations” and migrant wannabes; the well-paid prestige worker who might not be white all over but whose collar is; and so on.

And a work about labor is also a work about gender, implicitly, because gender, even now, structures labor as its limit or outside: “women’s work” is badly paid or not paid at all because it belongs to a supposedly outside sphere of love, home, family, care.

These heavy & mutually interlinked words, race class gender, are words for differential access to resources, but also for differential relations to history, to the histories the words themselves carry in them; they are words that are straining at the seams. They are as embarrassing and necessary as a bathroom, where a cleaner – probably a woman, probably not white, certainly not a bourgeois or a capitalist – scrubs away the marks of the other workers’ excretions. There is not much to say about this image of a woman scrubbing a bathroom, though it must have something to tell us about the image of a brilliant young exec or artist giving a presentation, and vice versa, if we are talking about work in general. But all the words are all hidden and conflated in history-less terms like “entrepreneur”, perhaps even in “artist”.

# CHATEAU SATO

The stock-image groups of culture industry self-employed workers with their laptops bearing the emblem of a historic gay suicide, aren't they cute? I am among them, I am one of the signs of this group's carefully measured "inclusiveness", its "diversity", that never fails to reproduce, like the row of differently raced babies in a 1990s Benetton ad, the perpetual motion of supremacy. Like the logo on the laptop represents poisoned fruit, the shiny surface of the image of "contemporary working life" both hides and points to a deep and continuing violence. But these images are incubating a past too, they will grow a local context, they will be stripped of their terrible neutrality.

Or I have to believe this. And to do so I have to believe that time is different from its presentation in the "how to maximize your time" life-hack articles and different from the time you can write in a timesheet.

The characteristic of labor is wasting time, cutting time, making time, stealing time. For the boss, the entrepreneur, or the self-boss, this relation to time appears as control and maximization of output; but work, from the perspective of labor, can also be a sabotage of capitalist time, of its linearity, of its necessity, of its refusal of the pasts and futures and presents it carries inside it. This sabotage happens not as a positive content, not as "creative disruption", but as boredom, exhaustion, resentment, anxiety, and the shadow of lost/insufficient time that hangs on the heels of all forms of labor, whether self-directed or violently imposed.

## **Outline of a reality show based around a hot desking environment:**

(show pitch for a reality TV show (scripted drama?) about a hot desking space in downtown LA) The show will track a group of eight individuals as they navigate their way through the trials and tribulations of being self-employed. Although independent, each character will congregate daily at the hot desking space downtown. A place where they are able to enjoy the social and professional benefits of being in a group, sharing ideas and opportunities as each try to go it alone, fulfilling their dreams.

Your **work** is important in two respects. First, it is the starting point for building an ideal world on earth. It is important to know that **through** your **work** you can make changes in society and in the environment around you.

Second, your occupation provides you with the raw material for expanding your **enlightenment**. **Work** provides you with the opportunity to practice the second stage of love, spiritually nurturing love. Your relationships with people in the workplace are valuable learning experiences. You should appreciate the fact that you are given the chance to **raise and intensify your enlightenment through work**.

# CHATEAUSHATO

The hipster (you and I) consciously deny membership to the group, while maintaining all the bodily benefits that come with being part of a pack.

The hipster has managed to reconcile the contradictions formulated around the subject as at the beginning of the 21st century, that we are expected to think of ourselves as both totally free thinking individuals as well as part of a network, whose actions, feelings and thoughts are predictable, contingent on our environment.

**Name:** The coffice.

**Age:** As old as free Wi-Fi.

**Appearance:** Half coffee shop, half office. Hence the name.

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Dr. Nicola Millard's favourite place to work, she says, is somewhere with a bit of a life but no colleagues to distract her. "My four criteria for working," she says, "are that I need good coffee, I need good cake, I need great connectivity – the Wi-Fi wings to fly me into the cloud – and I need company."

**That's all very interesting ...** But what does it mean for the rest of us?

**Precisely.** Not much if you're stacking shelves or changing old people's incontinence pads. But if you're a "knowledge-based" worker, Millard points out, all you need for most of the time is a phone, a computer and an internet connection. This could be in your local cafe – or it could be in your home. "There is no reason why knowledge workers shouldn't all be working flexibly in five years' time," according to Millard.

## **Three artists one show: Memorandum/constitution**

Protect and facilitate the other point of view

Everyone is a victim, do not judge people, judge beliefs

Protect and defend the other artists in their position - even if it runs counter to your position and your material objectives

Nurture discourse where possible,

Be willing to accept another point of view over your own

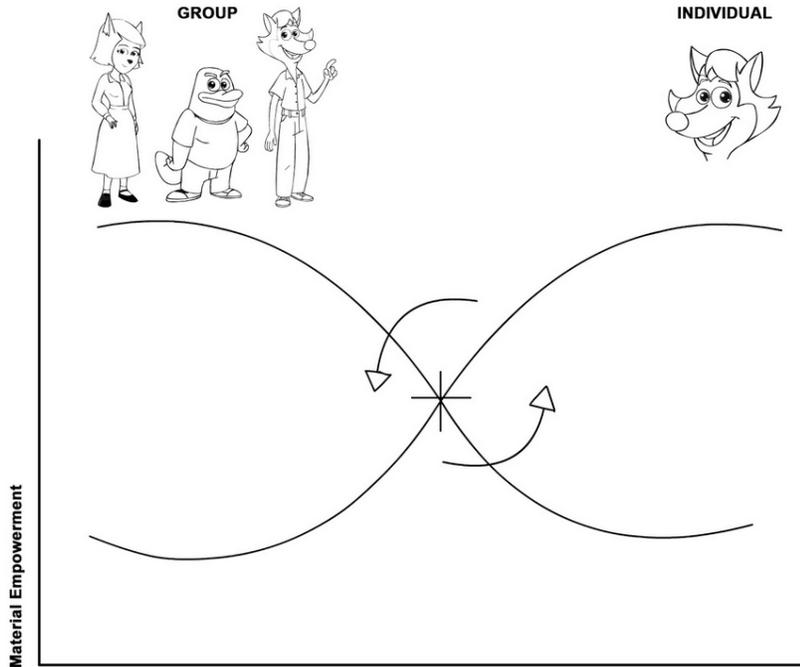
Never judge someone for who they are, everyone's a victim to circumstances

Be aware of the privilege of your situation

do not squander that privilege

Statement about navigation of positions, maybe would be nice as framed in terms of a dance

# CHATEAU SATO



## JOB / SECURITY

The secure worker is a productive worker. The safe worker is a productive worker. The comfortable worker is a productive worker. Productivity is not the goal of work. Work for work's sake. Work for what one needs. Work on the community. The x worker is a happy worker. The x is a playful worker, a satisfied worker. Security is the individual's responsibility. Security is the community's responsibility.

Security is tacit. Security must be explicit. Securing the community against the individual. Securing the individual against the community. The user is a worker. The worker is a user. Securing the user from the work. Securing the space for the user. Making the user feel safe. Making the user feel special? Securing them from the need to choose. Dealing with low level concerns on their behalf. Securing them from the decisions of others. Dealing with low level concerns with their input. Securing the space against the user. Securing the world from the worker? Securing the worker from the worker. Securing the worker from the world. Securing the worker from the manager. Who is the manager. Securing the management from the worker? Securing the oppressed. Securing the marginalized. Securing inclusivity. Securing the man. Securing the woman. Securing the LGBTIQ. Securing the cisgendered. Securing freedom. Securing the right to free speech. Securing freedom from hate speech. Securing ones identity. Securing ones reputation. Securing a brand. Feeling safe. Feeling like one can get down to work. Feeling like one can play productively. Feeling like one isn't working. Attention as concern. Attention as attentiveness. Response as responsibility. Response as response-ability. Attention as annoyance? Annoyance as attention. Annoyance as responsible. The better good. The complicated kindness. To drawing safety issues to the users attention. To solve safety issues unilaterally. Deciding to act. Deciding what is trivial. Deciding what is given, what does not need to be decided. Making feel secure by performing the theatre of security. Making feel insecure by performing the theatre of security. (Priming). Securing information. Securing the body. Securing the asset. Psychology. Well being. Safety. Comfort. Dignity. Respect.

Doing one's part. Securing the internet. Securing the wifi. Securing the computer. Informational security (infosec). Operational security (opsec). Securing the nation. Securing peace. International security. Securing the future. Securing one's future. Securing the future of humanity. Securing the environment. Securing the earth. Securing existence. Securing the night. Securing the day. Securing the supply chain. Securing the future. Securing one's future. Securing the ability to get more work. Securing a wage. Securing the worker from the work. Securing the right to work. Securing the right to fair pay. Securing right to ownership. Securing right to participate in the profits of one's labor. Securing the right to a fair price for one's labor. Securing property. Securing objects. Security objects. Securing the freedom from worry. Freedom to worry. Managing risk. Calculating risk. Weighing options. Speaking for others. Listening to others. Being responsible. Being response-able. Risking security. Securing security. Securing the possibility of security. Insecure security.

# CHATEAUSHATTO

**\*\*I think the pope can be a repeated character\*\***

<http://supercommunity.e-flux.com/texts/the-message-of-francis/>

Let me explain a couple of things. Time is short. That's the first thing. For the weasel, Time is a weasel. For the hero, Time is heroic. For the whore, Time is just another trick. If you're gentle, your Time is gentle. If you're in a hurry, Time flies. Time is a servant, if you are its master. Time is your god, if you are its dog. We are the creators of Time, the victims of Time, and the killers of Time. Time is timeless. That's the second thing. You are the clock, Cassiel.

The show is full of unassuming stars, each dealing with the burden and responsibility of survival. Bills, rent and food are a fiscal gravitational force, that underwrite our dreams. For the few, these things are light, to be played with, for others they remain heavy, so heavy in fact that dreams themselves become sucked in, transfixed with an image of escape.

*Irenaeus believed we are born into god's image but have to develop into his likeness thus the world and life is a platform for self development. If given all the proper tools, coffee, connectivity, company, space, and an outlet to plug in your computer, you can reach the pinnacle of what it means to work as a self employed individual.*

(Insert statement of artistic practice or principle - This will encompass the group dynamic of what each artist has contributed to the show eg Matt: security Hannah: Critical thought Ed: Positive/move beyond critical)

(Follow up with the parameters of of the show like a bird's eye view of what to expect)

