

David Simmons

Professor Tracey Salaway

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ESSAY - Gary Taxali

Gary Taxali is an award winning Indian-born Canadian artist and illustrator with an amazing work ethic and style. The reason I chose him is that he likes to play with various media, techniques, even with languages. Multifaceted artist like Gary Taxali, reminds me of graffiti artists who has to challenge himself on various types of walls, murals, even with various paper to paste onto various surfaces. It considers as an art to me in application of the art onto whatever the media desired.

His works are populated by characters of his own design that look as if they have stepped off the pages of vintage advertisements. Anthropomorphised blocks, shapes and animals all take on emotional power all within a context which is carefully rendered to look from another age.

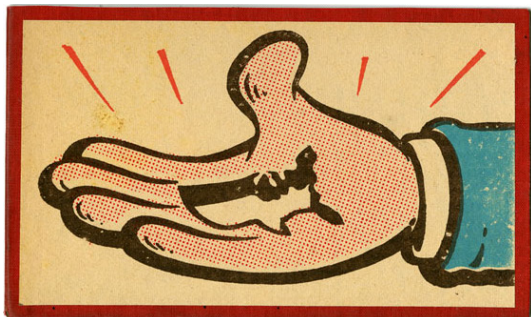
Taxali has produced a number of books including a couple illustrated for children. He was also commissioned by the Royal Canadian Mint to design a series of coins!

An absolute Outré favourite is his heart warming tribute to the late Maurice Sendak “Wild Forever”.

Taxali’s collaboration with the Royal Canadian Mint has garnered quite a bit of media attention, including a feature on CBC’s The National on Sunday, January 22, 2012. The coins feature Taxali’s recognizable pop culture imagery infused with his retro graphic vintage style. The words “25 Cents”, “2012” and “Canada” are depicted on the coins in Gary’s famous font called “Chumply,” the first time

the Mint has allowed an artist to change the typography on coins.

One of Taxali's great works, in my opinion is "Lust", "Hello" and "Speed". I valued his multimedia, multilingual, and using great imageries from few generations ago. I see great parallel with the graffiti artists' objectives. Especially the way he uses the vintage papers, decades-old ink, and even 50's moire onto his works. Many of his artworks are blended with humor of various levels. He earns my namaste.



Citations

Jordan, Matt Dukes. *Weirdo Deluxe*. San Francisco: Chronicle Press, 2005. Print.

GaryTaxali. 2013. Web. March 11, 2013

Outre Gallery. *Gary Taxali*. 2013. Web. March 11, 2013

Image Credits

<http://robertmars.blogspot.com/2012/10/10-fine-examples-artwork-of-gary-taxali.html>

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