

MUSEUM OF FORGOTTEN HISTORY

Maarten Vanden Eynde

The Museum of Forgotten History consists of remnants of a possible future past. All the items in the collection are misinterpretations, or 'false' pieces of the puzzle, filling the missing links that come about due to the constant evolution of history.

“It rarely occurs to people that most of the present day’s significant archaeological artifacts were, in their own day, garbage. The majority of important archaeological sites giving us clues to former civilizations were burial grounds for discarded bodies or ancient trash dumps.

It perhaps occurs to even less people that goods manufactured today only to end up in landfills, will be the artifacts of the next centuries. How can one help but wonder if, in the year 2211, a broken IKEA teacup scattered meters beneath the earth will be an archaeologists’ key to cracking early 21st century culture?

What will future archaeologists understand of us? Will urban graffiti be our cave paintings? If written history was rendered indecipherable and material objects were the only evidence of today’s civilization, what story would they tell? How would they be coherently strung together? Could they be?

And, is the archaeology of today perhaps just as arbitrary?”

Mara Goldwyn, *Art Slant*. 2011



Modern Menhir

Belgium, 2010 A.D.
Bricks and concrete

I Want That You Want What I Want That You Want

STIHL chainsaw exchanged for an ebony wood copy
made by a local artisan
Cameroon, 2010 A.D.
Ebony wood

1000 Miles Away From Home

Plastic particles from North Atlantic Gyre
Bermuda - Azores, 2010 A.D.
Plastic particles, distilled water

Ikea - Vase

Restaured vase
Europe, 2011 A.D.
Ceramic and restauration paste

Industrial Evolution

Last 100 remaining objects of the Industrial Revolution
Birmingham, 2007-2009 A.D.
Lambda prints on forex

Homo Stupidus Stupidus

Reassembled human remains
Belgium, 2009 A.D.
Resin, clay and metal

Genetologic Research Nr. 23

The Netherlands, 2005 A.D.
Wood and woodglue