Diego Rivera, 1931 company my son decame familiar with decause of their 81 The Making of a Fresco Showing the Building of a City, also be read as an attitude of love in the face of hate. meant to imply that envy is a motivation factor could while wearing his DGK 'I 🕶 Haters!' hat. The statemen 80 Artist's son inadvertently making a Jesus hand signal 79 Bobby and the artist's son in Hollenbeck Park, 2012 78 Portrait of the artist's son by Shawn Mortensen, 2005. Bitches ain't shit but hos and tricks'. 1992 album The Chronic, in which Snoop Dogg sings 77 Internet meme originating from a song on Dr. Dre's East Los Angeles in March, 2007. Gutta, was shot four times by a rival gang member in

76 Photo of Bobby's best friend, now deceased, appearing was shot and killed in Los Angeles. Shawn Mortensen on March 8, 1997, the day before he Christopher George Latore Wallace, b. 1972) taken by 75 Portrait of Biggie Smalls, aka Notorious B.I.G. (née

of the year. announced he'd be leaving the music business at the end 74 DJ Quik headlined the 'West Coast Fest' 3/21/13 and Carrying the Cross, 1446, Biagio d'Antonio 75 Saint Veronica ('true icon') seen in a detail from Christ

as screensaver. 18 year old Jonathan Hurtado, aka J.

72 Photo of Bobby and the artist's son taken in her studio. being the projected hit. b-side or hipside of vinyl single releases, the A-side 70 The term 'b/w' means 'backed with' and refers to the 69 USC mascot Tommy Trojan in victory pose.

School of Art at USC's commencement ceremony. 68 Professor Frances Stark serving as Marshall for Roski high school. He took his own life 2009. rap legends appear here, was a friend of the artist since

66 Ad for Dirty Chetto Kids, or DGK, a clothing CUSTAVE COUTDEL 65 L'Origine du Monde (The Origin of the World), 1866

Magdalena [57] is purely coincidental.

son's Montessori school in Echo Park in 2005.

this inexpensive form of cocaine.

shot and killed at age 15 directly in front of the artist's

The speech also can come across as an infomercial for

neant to garner support for the nation's war on drugs.

presenting a dag of crack cocaine as a prop in a speech

(former director of the C.I.A.) appeared on television

54 Snapshot of Bobby with lil Mikey, aka Ghost, who was

for a popular annual music festival. 2Pac-deceased Document showing technique used to resurrect 2Pac Bobby his first Job as an errand boy at age 15. El Lazarillo de Tormes is the name of a Spanish picaoullet like a job. Founder and director Father 'G gave 49 The motto of Homeboy Industries is 'Nothing stops a 64 El Lazarillo de Tormes, 1808-1812 by Francisco Goya. 65 Christ Giving His Blessing, Hans Memling 14/8 48 Bobby assisting in the artist's studio. [S+] 99S L+

62 DJ Quik, nee David Blake (b. 1970) (photo credit or who has no understanding of them. one who is hostile or indifferent to culture and the arts, posted on the free online dating site OK Cupid. 61 Image taken from a blog poking fun at a guy who Philistine warrior Goliath. Today, 'philistine' means or The bible tells of the shepherd David slaying the giant Shawn Mortensen 60 1992 Portrait of Dr. Dre (née Andre Young, b. 1965) by

45 Cupid Making His Arch, c. 1555-1555, Parmigianino ne doctor periorms ner routine gynecological exam. Mayle, 'The facts of life without any nonsense and with nission for USC medical students to be present while book Where Did I Come From? written by Peter 44 Form signed by patient, Frances Stark, declining per-59 Illustration by Arthur Robins taken from the 1977

43 Three ostensible gangbangers being arrested by а 58 Portrait of Bobby by the artist, 2012. The likeness to per, re-named himself after the legendary figure. Ross, a former correctional facilities officer-turned-rap- 57 Magdalena, by Cheorghe Tattarescu, 19th c. tor his role in the evolution of cocaine into crack. Rick both the Nicuaraguan Contras and the CIA, best known 56 The Murder of Christ by Wilhelm Reich, 1953. 2 Ricky Ross was a drug kingpin with connections to 55 Portrait of Frances Stark by Shawn Mortensen, 1994.

correge stadium. sparking controversy about having their name on a corporations gave money to the University of Florida 41 GEO GROUP, one of the largest for-profit prison World', lived 1886-1942

40 Edith Clifford, 'Champion Sword Swallower of the

51 Edith Clifford, 'Champion Sword Swallower'

since '96-performed Tive onstage in the form of a

adding the singular article la changes the meaning to 53 On September 5, 1989 president George H. W. Bush neaning 'holy shit' or 'motherfucker'. In some regions, neans motner. 10geiner iney 10rm an expietive madre? 'Puta' means 'fuck' or 'bitch', and 'madre'

petter harden up and stop acting like a lit soft cake since infancy is Beanie): 'beans, you a n\*\*\*a now so you 38 Message from Bobby to the artist (whose nickname Bobby and his childhood friend Mr. Martin.

Back while modeling for her drawing class at USC with 37 Frances Stark reads Flannery O'Conner's Parker's overlooking The LA County Jail, aka Twin Towers. spray-painting on cardboard in my studio parking lot 36 Photo of Bobby, my son, and his two best friends

25 The mascot of the University of Southern California holes to be used in a collage. The Grunwald Collection, The Hammer Museum 12 Illustration of a scene in Cervantes' novel Don Quixote 22 Etching by Anton Lehmden, Colosseum, 1959-61, from 35 Bobby assisting in the artist's studio, cutting out bullet

autobiography of Dick Gregory. founding member of N.W.N pictured reading the 54 Shawn Mortensen's 1994 portrait of Ice Cube (a in Los Angeles, talking with a homie.

55 Father Gregory Boyle, founder of Homeboy Industries should be done, unnindered by administrative worries to be, and do; an opportunity to freely imagine what totuin to setiously consider what we want our schools 52 Matisse and his Model, by Brassaï, 1930 Angeles-based artist, DJ Quik, released by Mad Science York studio, 1960. Photo: Alexander Liberman. 31 The Book of David is the 8th studio album by Los June/July. 2013: p. 51. Caption: Martin in her New

Photo by Nadya Wasylko

featuring Skerrit Bwoy with the artist Frances Stark. ners in the company that sells Beats by Dre headphones 30 Poster for 2011 performance Put a Song in your Thing Innovation.' lovine and Young (aka Dr. Dre) are part-'head' or the mainstream. E.g. the Kardashians (head) scribes a distribution model in contradistinction to the 31, 2009 (Photo: Mark Blower). The 'Long Tail' de-Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, on January TO PARENTS\*. Inside the bag is contraband (purloined which is written her son's name with a note to \*TALK 29 Mark Leckey in the Long Tail, a performance at the

Caravaggio (Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna) 28 David with the Head of Goliath, 1597-98, Amerighi

an acronym for 'The Hate U Give Little Infants Fucks Mortensen in 1993. Tupac's tattoo, 'THUG LIFE', is 27 Iconic portrait of Tupac Shakur taken by Shawn

Conquistadors. Photo by DeWayne Stark. Mozart's Magic flute.

14 From The Book of Genesis Illustrated by R. Crumb, 2009. and Redemption. Massachusets: Beacon Press, 2012. What Gangs Taught Me About Violence, Drugs, Love, reproduced for the cover of Jorya Leap's Jumped In: ession in Prof. Stark's intermediate drawing class at USC. 35 Sketch of Bobby made by a student during a live modeling 25 Mi Mudre de los Angeles by Fabian Debora, 2009

24 A Crip fights a Blood on a Los Angeles street. the victim of exploitation, Andres is still no angel. panish picaresque illerary tradition, while blatantly Memoriai Conseum. ouce the knight is out of sight. Like all poor boys in the 'Traveler' at USC's home stadium, the Los Angeles gob his beating, and he complies, only to start up again is Jommy Irolan scene here atop his horse named by his master. Quixote exhorts the master to be fair and

the seven icons will be hidden, by Binzad

19 From: Schiff, Karen L. 'Slow Reveal.' Art in America.

Young Academy for Arts, Technology and Business of

million gift to create 'The Jimmy lovine and Andre

did you do that!?' and he answers 'Lady, I'm a snake.'

side of the road. She brings it home, nurses it back to

a pet. Once recovered he bites her and she cries out "Why

health, grows quite fond of the snake and treats him like

18 Page from USC's magazine announcing the \$70

rom nis motner).

picaro (young rogue), strapped to a tree being beaten mous with toolish idealism) encounters young Andres, (1603), in which the titular protagonist (now synony-

11 A glass Pyrex measuring cup is a well-known tool used 21 Building of Castle Khawarnaq, wherein the artist, poster designed with Stuart Bailey. rom General Hospital and USC Medical Center. about what can't possibly be done. Organized by the of his grandmother's house in East Los Angeles, across O Photograph of the artist's son taken by Bobby in front

the near extermination of the native population. while extracting great riches. They were responsible for YO A symposium offering artists, students and educators a dized the Americas with hopes of winning souls for God 9 Conquistadors (conquerors) were soldiers who colo-

killed in the Koman Coliseum. 8 Illustration showing Christians being tortured and

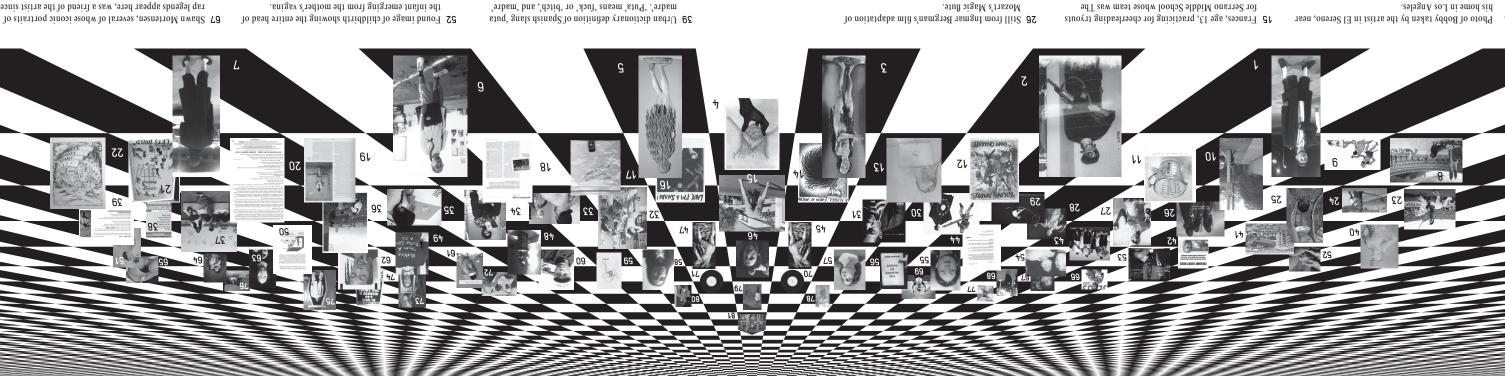
in process of turning cocaine into crack

nedicai marijuana ciinic. Bobby, in the studio, ready for a job interview at a

moment in childbirth when the head first appears. 17 Evidence presented to the artist by a camp counselor o 4 An augmented found drawing depicting 'crowning,' the 5 Saint Mary Magdalene by Gregor Erhart, c. 1515-20.

nome operating within the juvenile justice system. home trips' allowed during an 18 month stay in a boy's 16 Parable: An old lady discovers a snake mangled on the I Bobby, age 15, posing with an AK-47 on one of his 2 Photo taken by Lil Mikey, aka Ghost (now deceased)

nis nome in Los Angeles.



The iconic partraits of Tupac, Ice Cube, Dr. Dre, and Biggie, as well as partraits of me and my son, were all taken by the artist Shawn Mortensen, a friend since high school, who tragically took his own life with a gun in 2009. I'm continually moved by his fearlessness and his romantic idealism embodied in the work. A collection of his photographs, Shawn Mortensen: Out of Mind, was published by Abrams Image in 2007 with a fareward by Glenn O'Brien and an alterward by Richard Prince. My copy bears this inscription: 'For Frances & Arla! Oh My Beanie! We've been friends for 23 years of full om LIFE! Let's look forward to 50 wonderful years!

A note on the music: DJ Quik is a legendary west coast artist out of Compton, California whose music career took off in 1991. The two songs sampled here are: <u>Catch-22</u>, from his 2005 album Trauma, and Fire and Brimstone, from his 2011 album The Book of David. Twice anstage in the last year I've seen him announce that he's retiring at the end of the year. Enormous fan that I am, I hope he changes his mind about that, yet at the same time I eagerly await the results of whatever transformation he may have underway. It doesn't seem possible to stop being an artist.

All auates attributed to Father G are taken from Father Gregory Boyle's book, Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion, published by Free Press, a division of Simon & Schuster. Boyle, a Jesuit, is the founder of Hameboy Industries—an organization that serves high-risk, formerly gang-involved men and wamen with a continuum of free semices and programs, and operates seven social enterprises that serve as job-training sites. He is affectionately and ironically—referred to as Father G ('G' being slang for 'Gangster')

Jonathan Hurtado, 18, described by police as Latina and by medical examiners as black, was shot in a park at 127 South Pecan St. in Boyle Heights, and died at 7:29 p.m. March 2, 2007. Hurtada's attacker, another Latina youth who walked or bicycled up to him, said, 'Hey, homie, what's up?' then shot him four times. Janathan, aka J Gutta was the best friend of Bobby, aka G Business.

Bobby Jesus's Alma Mater b/w Reading The Book of David and/or Paying Attention is Free, Frances Stark, 2013

Designed by Frances Stark and Chris Svensson with the assistance of Andrew La Costa and Sydney Schrader. and the generous encouragement of Daniel Bauman and the Carnegie Museum of Art.

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something: be 'rather heavy'? Navage-Everyone you see, you ro, d'Anghiera, and Oviedo say to them, 'Love me.' had a right to be confound-Of course you do not do this ed: they were encountering a novel form of matter. The out loud: otherwise, someone would call the cops. balls were made of rubber. Still though, think about *Charles C. Mann*, 1493: this, this great pull in us to Uncovering the New World connect. Why not become Columbus Created the one who lives with a full moon in each eye, that is always saving—with that sweet moon language what every other eye in this everything that's going world is dying to hear. on. There's a lot of nuances in this album. Check it Hafez (via Father G.)

n his General and Nat- of movement with the wow ural History of the In- and flutter. But I don't dies (1535), the first ac- know if people are realcount of Spain's foray into ly into that anymore, you the Americas, he tried to know, like art for art's describe bouncing, a term not then in the Spanish

language: 'These balls jump m u c h m o r e than

our h o 1 -1 o w balls—by far—because even if they are only let slip from the hand to the ground, they rise much fur- sake? They height by itself, like hollow balls, but more so.' Indians DJ Quik made the strange, springy material of the balls, he wrote by combining 'tree roots and herbs and juic-

ther than they started, and it. Like I say, my talents er Teresa's take: 'We are not I'm talking about aesthetic they make a jump, and then are being wasted on hipanother and another, and hop right now. There are many more, decreasing in other places where I can be more prominent.

ome company recentbuying my 'aura.' es and a combination of They didn't want my prodthings.... [A]fter [the mix- uct. They kept saying, 'we ture] is dried, it becomes want your aura.' I never figrather spongy, not because ured out what they wanted. it has holes or voids like a But they were willing to sponge, but because it be- pay a lot for it. So then I comes lighter, as if it were thought that if somebody flabby and rather heavy.' was willing to pay that Wait a minute, one wants much for my it, I should try to say: how could some- to figure out what it is. thing 'become lighter' yet Andy Warhol

faithful, keeps you from tru- you ahead of time. ly seeing whoever's sitting in *Mother F* front of you. ly was interested in Father G.

e swore it all on his conscience though I think that conscience in businessmen is a bit like virginity in whores—they think what you could do sell it when they haven't got it any more. Hardly anybody Invest it! And in three years because they've heard it's dollars!!!

so they leave it behind with Manifesto

cessful? Naturally, I find

called to be successful but

success keeps you from being

children and youth in

me 'they come into the [LA Swindler

**I** the system had told

County Department of Pro-

bation camps maybe slight-

ly involved with gangs and

come out full-fledged gang-

bangers.' I know the rest. At

some point many will wind

work has taught me

that God has greater

comfort with inverting cate-

gories than I do. What is suc-

cess and what is failure? What

is good and what is bad? Set-

back or progress? Great stock

these days [...] is placed in ev-

idence-based outcomes.

particu-

lar, want or mean-

know if -mak-

what you ing, is the

do 'works.' Are most basic, im-

you, in the end, suc- mediate and FREE

helpful. [...] Salivating for of entertainment that tends to

o i n g

California Prison system.

ou have to listen to up in graduate school—the

The Book of David

a few times to hear

out on vinyl. There's a lot

they're born.

web of my motivations.

ceives'. Perception and

its resulting un-

derstanding,

simply as 'one who per-

ncapable of enjoying the the Non-Religious moment, the male needs something to look forward to, and money provides him with an eternal. never-ending goal: Just with 80 trillion dollars—

likely to get in their way, Valerie Solanas, The SCUM gospel. [...] The American Solid Melts Into Air (1982)

n Africa they say 'a person poet Jack Gilbert writes, 'The tireless advocate for their umbilical cords when Francisco de Quevedo, The be no doubt that the homies v pride as a man dis- I've learned, with their patient guidance, to worship **V** I solved and my whole I fragile moral struc-Christ as He lives in them. ture seemed to collapse, com-

pletely shattered. That is why I started to write. To save Jesus out of religion, myself. I realized that no one free him from creeds, could save me but myself. The prison authorities were both doctrines and dogmas, we Father G wenty years of this uninterested and unable to can once again hear his inhelp me. I had to seek out the truth and unravel the snarled perience known in the fullness of life. That is the Jesus Eldridge Cleaver, Soul on Ice I seek. He neither was nor is a miracle worker. He did not iterally speaking, an walk on water, heal the sick, or raise the dead. Rather, in 'aesthete' is defined

becomes a person through pregnant heart is driven to other people.' There can hopes that are the wrong size for this world.' The strategy have returned me to myself. and stance of Jesus was consistent in that it was always out of step with the world. Jesus defied all the categories upon which the world insisted: good-evil, success-failure. erhaps if we can break pure-impure. Surely, He was an equal-opportunity 'pisseroff-er' in this regard.

vitation to enter the God ex- he real source of trouble is the bourgeois claim to be the 'Party of Order' in modern politics and culture. The immense amounts of money and energy put into building, and the self-consciously monumental character of so much of this building, testify to the sin-

cerity and

serious-

ness

this claim. And yet, the truth of the matter, as Marx sees, is that everything that bourgeois sociactivity everybody has the don't get myself heartened by Moth- capacity to derive joy from. his radical humanity, etv builds, is built to be torn he lived out the meaning of down. 'All that is solid'—from experience, not consumption the clothes on our backs to the

looms and mills that weave power to exclaim, 'God was them, to the men and women want to do the perceiving for in Christ,' and thus God, the who work the machines, to the gospel writers assert, can houses and neighborhoods the also be in you and in me. workers live in, to the firms John Shelby Spong, Jesus for and corporations that exploit the workers, to the towns and cities and whole regions and he tyranny of success even nations that embrace them often can't be both- all—all these are made to be ered with complexity. broken tomorrow, smashed or The tote board matters lit- shredded or pulverized or distle when held up alongside solved, so they can be recycled [R.I.P.]'s intricate, tragic or replaced next week, and the struggle to figure out who he whole process can go on again in business has a conscience, time you'd have 300 trillion was in the world... Success and again, hopefully forever, and failure ultimately have in ever more profitable forms. little to do with living the Marshall Berman, All That is

God and caused those who faithful.' This distinction is or getting a fix from the type glimpsed his life or felt his

