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ITEM: The Ephemera Fest Collaborative Zine for 2014
Welcome to ITEM!
The FIRST Ephemera Fest Collaborative Zine!

I’m just going to have to say I think Item is rad
random and delightful

and so is everyone who contributed!

See you next year!
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It awoke me early this morning
The pitter-patter of raindrop storming
Drawing me to that little bend
In the creek that water would send
Over the rocks over the sand
How happy I am not on dry land
Paddle twice this way
And one on the right to make it stay.
I'm thankful for this water's flow
This wonderful trip to nourish my soul
Just a few minutes to take in
God's beauty.

Then I shall wake for my duty
Louder & louder I hear that sound climbing
Oh my goodness it's my alarm clock churning
This is the end of my kayaker's dream
Get up, suit up time to walk on the beam.

Shannon | 1
THE BANANA BANDIT

STICK UM UP!
I woke up with the watery song of the rain scattering on the trees, pounding like a thousand tiny heartbeats.

There is nothing that comes close to that green and silver scent—that perfect voice.

I listened through the screen, hushed, preparing to open the blinds—to kiss the cold throat of morning, stroke the silk fog of the day's grey robe.
MOTHER EARTH TAKES A SELFIE.  

SHE'S LOOKIN' FINE!
The glass
The sand
the cross
Reactions of the people
with shoes uplift.
Gifs hold a mesmerizing power. Their short, repeated imagery refers to both a single captured moment and the continual cycles of our lives. In popular culture, the gif has incited laughter through repetition and immortalized great moments of fact and fiction. The imagery of a gif can be painted, scanned, photographed, filmed, collaged, and so much more. Creating one requires very little experience or equipment, and to view them one simply needs an internet browser. For these reasons, gifs have the potential to be an adaptable and diverse communication medium. In the hands of an artist, the digital file can fit within the contexts of the Art World’s past, present, and future. The looping animations can connect with art history, and even successfully convey and expand upon modernism and post-modernism’s theories. Gifs rightly belong within the present Art World dialogue, not just as a vogue medium, but as one that can more thoroughly communicate the concepts of today’s artists. Most importantly, the medium has the potential to further develop and change into a more complex system that continues to change how people view the Art World. For these reasons, it only makes sense for gifs to be considered valid art forms.

Newly taken up by visual artists, gifs fit squarely in the “new media” category of contemporary art. However, looking beyond their recent popularity, gifs fit within art history’s timeline. This is easier to do if we consider them not as “new media” but as digital paintings. Rather than oil or plastic with pigment in it, gifs use computer code to manipulate light and create meaning and/or experience. With this in mind, we can more easily connect gifs to modernists and post-modernist traditions. It is the newer aspects of the medium that give them the ability to accomplish the goals of art theories. For example, through precise Red Green Blue light manipulation an artist can easily utilize modern color theory. Similarly, the ease of access to create, display, and view gifs lends itself to the democratization of art. With a gif, an artist can more simply explore the core-values of movements like minimalism, abstract expressionism, and, of course, pop art.

Literally manipulating light without a perceivable intermediate medium gives the artist an opportunity to create true Minimalist paintings. Gif’s digital nature allows a Minimalist to pare down imagery to basic elements without the need of physical interface or representation, while retaining options for size, color, shape, etc. Even though the artist has greater control over line, color, texture, form, and illusion in the digital artwork, her presence is further removed from the artwork. Reinforcing this absence of a creator allows viewer to better experience the purer light. Furthermore, the nature in which we view gifs, in an internet browser, explores the gestalt nature of space and humans in space, while the animation aspect of gifs comments on time and the viewer’s relationship to time. It seems only proper that Minimalist gifs become a part of the commentary of what it means to have online presence, the nature of websites, and flat but infinite nature of the internet.

Read the rest and other musings at rcampomanes.blogspot.com/
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Super Decent!

I was introduced to this phrase by a kid in high school (while I was living the golden days as a college dropout) describing a fellow human. The phrase stuck and my tongue seems to spread it like wildfire. Sorry, River.

1. I mean, I guess he's just a super decent human being.
2. Subpar at best.

Uh, yup.
When I was in elementary school I used to draw dragons over and over. I'm a little rusty.
The D ungeon & D ungeon's Lifestyle.

People need to exercise their imaginations. Modern medicine knows the importance of physical exercise, and everyone knows the importance of education.

Few still see the need to flex the intellectual muscle, critical thinking, abstract problem solving is as important an Activity.

Play D&D roleplay to see life to its full potential.
When I was in Wyoming (about 11 years old) I was obsessed with hatching eggs. I think it started when we hatched chicken eggs in class. I tried to hatch my own egg from one I stole from the fridge. My mom caught me and we had to have another version of "the talk" and I learned what fertilized meant.

Once, in Alabama, the second time (about 5 years old), it was during the Gulf War and my mom was deployed to Saudi Arabia. While she was gone my sister and I got chicken pox. I only had it on my belly while she had it all over. She got extra attention and an oatmeal bath. I wish I got an oatmeal bath.

Once, in Germany (I was about 13), my dad chased my sister around with a frozen squid. She was scared, but it wasn't until he "accidentally" dropped it on her that she went into hysterics.

"IT WAS WYOMING"

"No it was in Germany, because I remember the glass background of the balcony and you were in a pink robe, ... or am I crazy?"

"IT WAS WYOMING, BECAUSE I REMEMBER SCREAMING IN THE LIVINGROOM HUDDLED IN A BALL. THERE WAS ANOTHER TIME HE CHASED ME WITH COOKED SQUID TENTACLES HANGING OUT OF HIS MOUTH, THAT MIGHT'AVE BEEN GERMANY."
A must watch movie for someone of any age. Classic old tech references, dinosaurs, and Samuel L. Jackson. Just an overall classic for the ages. I mean, come on, watching velociraptors open doors and bad description on how easy closing is. Overall laugh riot.