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ART

Mark Jenkins on why elementary school walls are his favourite 'galleries'

Presenting everything you need to know about the artist behind the 84 male-suicide statues on the ITV Tower...

By Poppy Malby

16 November 2019

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contemporary life. The concept also imbues the artists' creative process with a performative element, as they work alongside one another in public view.

"*Watch This Space* will immerse visitors in a world of creation, where they can see the artists' process as it unfolds," explained Danysz. "The space is a blank page for the participating artists, who have the freedom to paint from floor to ceiling. In this cultural experience, we want to show the side of art that audiences don't normally see."

GQ spoke to sculptor Mark Jenkins, who is exhibiting there and who became widely known for for his sculptures on the ITV building to highlight male suicide. Jenkins seeks to encourage public participation: using the "street as a stage", Jenkins constructs surrealist installations that engender spontaneous responses from passers-by. Read on to find out more about him and his work...

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1. Where were you born?

In a manger.

2. What did you want to be when you were growing up?

Nothing. The existential crisis of being was enough.

3. What is the best piece of advice you have ever received? What is the worst?

Keep pushing yourself.

4. Where is your favourite place on this planet?

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Air.

9. We all love a movie night, so what is your favourite film of all time?

That's news to me.

10. What is your favourite art gallery in the world and why?

Elementary school walls. They don't frame or sell the art.

11. If you could collaborate with anyone, who would it be and why?

Whoever created the universe. Learn new skills.

12. What is your favourite sandwich filling?

Peanut butter and jelly after it's been fermenting in a plastic bag for a few days.

13. If you could visit any artist's studio, whose would you visit and why?

Frida Kahlo, to have a vacation in Mexico.

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14. What was the last thing you bought?

Jai Alai, an IPA from Tampa, Florida.

15. What is your favourite piece of clothing?

Wrangler Western shirts with snapon pearl buttons. It's my go-to for dressy occasions.

16. What is hanging on your walls at home?

My enemies.

17. What is one staple item all men should own?

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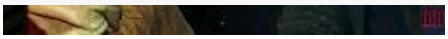


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