

If you are interested in getting the complete set of Short Statements, that is easy. They will be available at my site in digital format, and I will gladly send prints to interested people for postage only

MAIL-ART ON WIKIPEDIA

(selection)

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org>

When the electronic telecommunications network known as the Internet gave rise to e-mail art, conventional mail-art artists came to refer to the international postal service as the 'paper net' or snail-mail net. When a group of these artists are in some way linked through their works they are collectively referred to as a Mail Art Network or the Eternal Network.

The Mail-Art Network concept has roots in the work of earlier groups, including the Fluxus artists and the notion of 'multiples' or artworks manufactured as editions. Most commonly, Mail-Art Network artists have made and exchanged postcards, designed custom-made stamps or 'artistamps', and designed decorated or illustrated envelopes. But even large and unwieldy three-dimensional objects have been known to have been sent by Mail-Art Network artists, for many of whom the message and the medium are synonymous.

Fundamentally, mail art in the context of a Mail Art Network is a form of conceptual art. It is a 'movement' with no membership and no leaders.

Mail artists like to claim that mail art began when Cleopatra had herself delivered to Julius Caesar in a rolled-up carpet (although this was neither mail nor art). However, perhaps the initial genesis of mail art was in postal stationery, from which mail art is now typically distinguished (if not defined in its broadest sense). The first example of postal stationery was the pictorial design created by the English artist William Mulready (1786-1863) for mass printing-press reproduction on the first stock of prepaid postage wrappers or envelopes produced for the launch of the Penny Post in Britain in 1840.



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MAIL-ART

BOOKS WITH ALL THE MAIL-INTERVIEWS BY RUUD JANSSEN



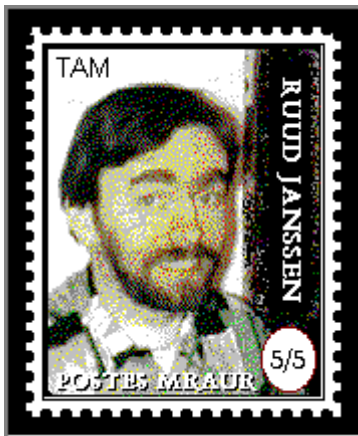
MAIL-INTERVIEWS BOOKS

The Mail-Interview project was a long-time project that I did in the years 1994 till 2002. Some mail-interviews even were done later, but those were mostly by chance. The complete project ended with the publishing of the booklets and texts online.

ON THE WWW

There are several places on the Internet where the mail-interviews can be found. Some even have been translated into other languages and published in other places or magazines. The main place where the mail-interviews are located is thanks to Jas W. Felter (Canada) who assisted me in the publishing of the initial series on his Digital Library :

http://jas.faximum.com/library/lib_tam.htm



Honorita (Texas, USA) even wrote a special chapter in her Thesis about the Mail-Interview Project. The complete text is available at:

www.lib.utexas.edu/etd/d/2003/starbuckmk032/starbuckmk032.pdf

On my own site I have also a special section about the Mail-Interview project. It links to all online available interviews:

<http://www.iuoma.org/interview.html>

BOOKS AT LULU

The online publishing website from www.LuLu.com is a very accessible one. Everybody can publish their books there when one only follows the rules they have. The mail-interview books are available there in a specially designed online store which you can find at the link:

<http://stores.lulu.com/iuoma>

The books (a set of 5 + 1) contain all the texts of the mail-interview, a reprint of the newsletter, and Part 5 even the covers of the original booklets that were published. Enough historic information for the archives and museums that want to have the stories of mail-artists in the 90-ies when Internet was new.

Do you like INTERVIEWS?

WIKIPEDIA

On Wikipedia the mail-interviews are also described like this:

*In 1994 Dutch mail artist Ruud Janssen began a series of **mail-interviews**, the body of which are now recognized as an influential contribution in the field of mail art. He interviewed Fluxus and Mail-Art personalities by using all the communication-forms that were available (Fax, E-Mail, Envelope, Personal Meeting, Telephone Call). The question travelled by one form and the answer could be sent back in another form. This concept resulted in a series of mail-interviews. These interviews were published in booklet-form and the complete texts are also available online at www.iuoma.org/ or Mail-Interviews. In 2008 a selection of the mail-interviews were published in book form.*

BLOGS

As a backup site for all mail-interviews and to publish the new developments there is a blog with most recent details:

<http://mailinterviews.blogspot.com/>

ORDERING BOOKS

The ordering of books is quite simple. At LuLu you can select the books you like, pay online (they have several ways) and the books are delivered straight to your home.

FUTURE?

A last version where I reflect on this Project is in the making.....

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