## PHOTOGRAPHING BORING PLACES

## I'M WATCHING YOU JASON RUFFELL



## We are watching you, watching us, watching you.

And we love it.

I have just sent a swab impregnated with my DNA off to a laboratory so that they can tell me who I am, as I have no idea myself. I say laboratory, it may just be someone's kitchen, bathroom or outhouse for all I know. The advertisement persuading me to give away all my secrets for free was very good. I can't wait to get the invaluable information back that I can put to good use. Shoe size, hair colour, food likes and dislikes, will all come in handy. No more eating out and ordering food that I detest.

... the results have come back and I am impressed. Did you really think I'd give away my DNA profile for free, without the satisfaction of even committing a very minor crime? I just stuck the swab into a dog poo I found on the street and sent it off. Apparently I am a can of Pedigree Chum. This is a very important fact to know.



e are also telling you want to do, and getting others to tell you as well. We are everywhere. In the past telling you what to do was so much harder, you had to play around with all those fiddly bits of type, setting them in to blocks, inking up, printing, it was time consuming and only those with good manual dexterity and the real need to control could be bothered.

If the internet looked like this could you be bothered to create a comment?

Times New Roman, 10pt, 2017.

Watching. Did, or do they still have surveillance equipment on the roof? Whatever, it's an ominous building.

The Moor, Ziggurat, 2019.



This Area is Protected by Remote Surveillance CCTV

Any Problems Please Contact Constant Security Services Tel: 0845 330 4400

Take a seat, check in, so we can check you out. We are watching you.

This area is protected by surveillance CCTV, Sheffield 2020 (top).

Bench, Sheffield, 2019 (right).

Background, close up of a circuit-board, 2020.





You give us stimulants and soporifics, depending on your needs. Keep us on edge so that we can be productive in work hours, numb our minds in our leisure time to stop us making trouble. I see your game, you see me, stalemate. Pass me another Nitro with Caramel Cold Foam.

Coffee Beans, 2019.



The Church, experts in control. Everything neat and ordered. Parishioners, part of The Process.

However, on this occasion I met a priest who was willing to listen to my confessions regarding my love of brutalist architecture, which also turned out to one of his sins too.

Lets demolish Lincoln Cathedral and re-build it in magnificent concrete.

Lincoln Cathedral, 2017.



No Entry, the Hue and Cry will chase down and lynch your Austin Allegro Vanden Plas. Your punishment for your pretence to being aristocracy. Either that, or the pot-holes will knacker your suspension. This is Sheffield after all.



No Entry, Sheffield 2017.



You can choose between the door on the left or the door on the right. This isn't a hypothetical decision making exercise, there's nothing behind either, apart from despair and loss.

Doors, Sheffield, 2019.

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL COAST PROTECTION ACT

HAVE YOU

PAID AND

DISPLAYED

1949

IT IS AN OFFENCE

TO REMOVE

BEACH MATERIALS MAXIMUM FINE £1000

0

Before 1949 you could nick a beach and nobody cared. The perfect crime perhaps?

Have you Paid and Displayed? Budleigh Salterton, 2017.



We know who you are ..., Hebden Bridge, 2018.



We know what you eat..., Berwick, 2018.



We know where you live... Bamburgh, 2018.



We give you entertainment... Leeds, 2018.

The middle class, exercising (their right to look down), can climb the crags and survey the working class. The ruling class don't have to bother, they know they are in charge.

Housing Estate, Edinburgh, 2019

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The third edition has been completed in Lock-Down, so hopefully it's more boring than ever. The next instalment will be on holidays, some of the bleakest memories. It will be in monochrome.

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