

BLACK ROCK BEACON



Свет. Правда. Бекон.

AMERICAN DREAM

WEDNESDAY

WWW.BLACKROCKBEACON.ORG

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Big Dreamer Is Watching

BY DURGY

At 1:00 and Bonneville behind the walls of Checkpoint Dreamyourtopia your dreams await. To get there you simply need to fill out a WXRZYQ SFG 23587-492 A, pass a rigorous interrogation under the watchful eye of closed circuit television to prove and defend your dream while walking that thin line between torture, interrogation, dream and reality, obtain a visa stamp for your passport and pass through to the otherside. Daniel Rozenberg, aka Dadara ("Fools Ark" 2002; "Burning Greyman" 2003) returns to the playa for the first time since 2004 with an international team of over 100 volunteers from around the world. For a while Dadara thought he might not return to Black Rock City, but the birth of his son changed his mind. At 3 years old, Mundo is among the youngest volunteers on the Dreamyourtopia project, but is well on his way to being properly brainwashed to dream big. He knows that blowing up pink tanks is cool thanks to his father. He knows that artists

live in really big homes filled with art, life and characters. Paraphrasing Oscar Wilde, father and son make dreams so big as to never be out of sight. When Dadara first heard the theme his initial thought was that it would be narrowing; however on some reflection had a change of heart. Everything is possible, so in this way, the American Dream can be seen as thought-provoking. A simple interpretation of the theme according to Dadara could be painting some stripes on your ass and putting stars on your tits; however, Dadara has made that extra effort, to offer a view of how our surroundings and the theme touches peoples' dreams. Dreamland is a society where everything is so controlled that even dreams are being monitored for correctness. Make no mistake, in BRC you are already being watched; for example, through Google Earth. Up until now, BRC had been a refuge away from such intrusion and CCTV; however the Dreamyourtopia Project is changing that for the good of society and the good of dreams.

Big Dreamer knows doubleplus better. Just as the artist put in some extra effort, entering the Dreamland compound will also take effort from participants in BRC. To truly appreciate Dreamland and to take part in the interactive element of the project you need to make an effort to get beyond the guard dogs, border control and the interrogators and anything else that stands in the way of your dreams. There is a fusion of the surreal and the official as you interact with the pink-brain camouflage-fatigue clad border guards (Mundos mother Thera made the uniforms worn by the guards, making this truly a family project) and at the same time legibly fill out your visa application. Please try to stay within the lines. After the event Checkpoint Dreamyourtopia will be packed up and taken on a world tour. Whereas border crossings are generally in fixed places, this border between reality and dreams will be a traveling installation through the states and eventually back to Europe.

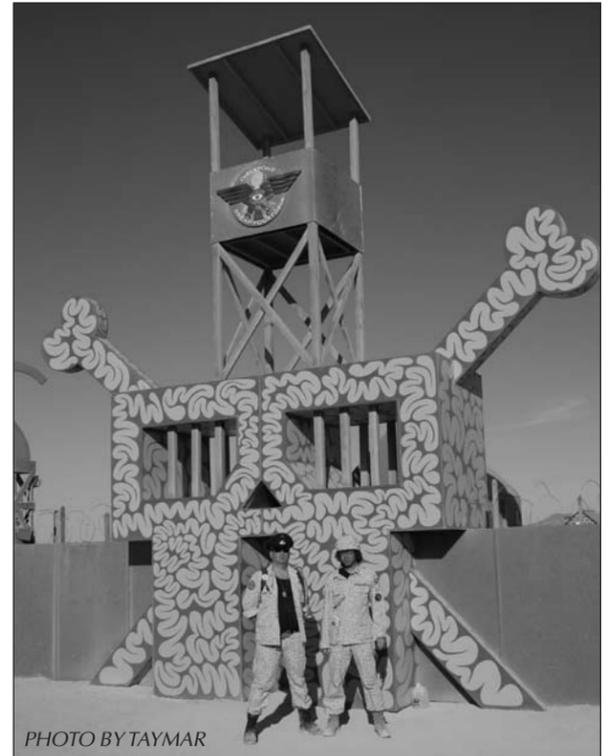


PHOTO BY TAYMAR

Transformus Muchos

BY EDGE AND MITCH

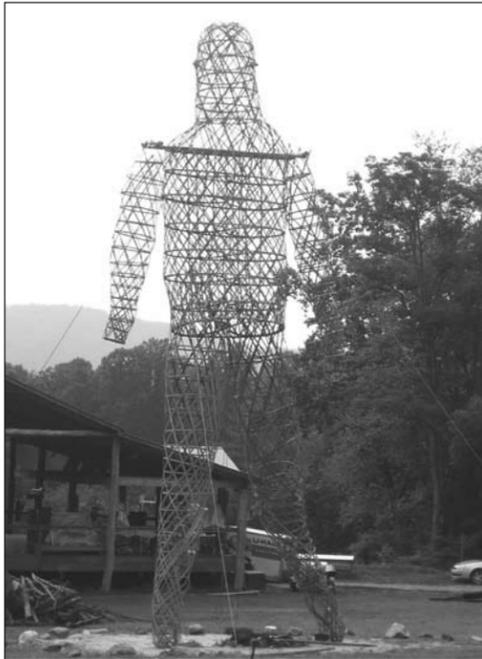
When the 1,500 Mysterians who attend Transformus each year witnessed the torching of the Bamboozler last month, it burned but it was not a Burn. The annual affair, which takes place near Asheville, North Carolina, had its status as a Burning Man regional event revoked in June because, in the words of the Bmorg, it lacked "civic responsibility and transparency."

Tickets were the ticket out of Burning Man's good graces. Transformus is held at Deerfields, a private campground in a mountains-and-lake setting that will allow only 1,500 attendees. The event, which began in 2004, quickly reached that level, and in 2006 and 2007, tickets sold out over the Internet in a matter of minutes.

For 2008, organizers tried to come up with a better solution for ticket distribution than the first-come, first-served model. They devised a worse one. Participants were given 10 days to request tickets and explain how they planned to participate. After the 10 day window ended there were 2,344 tickets requested of a total of 1,350 that had been made available. Of those, 80 were reserved for Rangers, medical personnel, workers on art projects that had received grants, and others deemed to hold "critical infrastructure roles." Ultimately, 844 people were turned away, although some of them could have

attended by purchasing tickets from those who were able to get them.

Many prospective residents of the city called Mysteria were incensed, and there were allegations aired at a town hall-style



An earlier incarnation of the Bamboozler.

Photo by FeyDreva via Wikipedia.

meeting that well-connected theme camps were walking away with the lion's share of the available tickets.

The Burning Man Organization found fault with clarity of the ticketing process, and, by implication, with the process itself. The Bmorg also criticized Transformus for a lack of timely public disclosure of its financial statements from past events. A letter to Transformus revealed that some participants had alleged inaccuracy in the event's bookkeeping, which was by the accountant's own admission, pretty sloppy.

Apparently as the result of his own dissatisfaction with the ticketing and accounting process, the group's webmaster took down the site in April. This made it difficult to complete the invitation/ticketing process, and seems to have created a situation wherein some people received tickets but did not pay for them, and the organizers did not have a way to verify who these people were other than by asking them to come forward.

For all the discord, this year's Transformus seems to have been an enjoyable affair, though marred by an accident during a Temple burn on the final evening. A participant fell into the fire and was airlifted out with second- and third-degree burns. Theme camps were closed for the rest of the night.

The Transformus board did not respond to a query sent via its website about its plans.

A Burner who is a veteran of Black Rock City and several regional burns said the Transformus theme camp scene was especially strong. Particularly enjoyable were two Burning Man camps, Big Puffy Yellow and the Philadelphia Experiment. Big Puffy, a Texas-based camp, is the one with the full moon balloon, located at Allante and 7:00 this year in Black Rock City. At Transformus, it offered a happy hour at 4:20, with loads of yummy food in a small sound-camp setting. Philadelphia Experiment, in the Fifth Dimension at Esplanade and 8:00 in BRC, was another DJ-oriented camp with fire spinning at Transformus.

Also worthy of note was The Willy Wonka Experiment, which, true to its name, handed out herb- (as in Kava-) enhanced chocolates and provided a fun place to hang out.

Dude, Where's My Car?

BY BLACK ROCK BEACON STAFF



PHOTO BY TAYMAR

The listings in the *What Where When* guide are subject to change without notice. Included in the changes are the placement of art pieces, whether a listed event is canceled for dust storms, etc.

A Black Rock Beacon staff member noticed that the "Bummer" installation by Myk Henry, et al. was not in the listed location. A staff member of the Artery (Wheel and 10:30) pointed out an updated map listing the actual locations of art pieces, then quickly turned around and pointed out on the Playa and said, "Look over there. See that giant truck-like thing? That's 'Bummer' over there." On the wall behind the placement listings, you can find listings for fire performances and art burns.

We visited Bummer, where the crew was putting the finishing touches on the piece. A member of the crew offered that event founder Larry Harvey had visited the installation on Saturday and commented that he looked forward to seeing the piece traveling around the Playa.

Construction Ergo Sum

BY BRIAN WALLACE

With Black Rock City steadily springing up from the desert floor, the display of sheer human productivity is undeniable. Thousands of tents. Hundreds of camps. Poles. Ropes. Hammers. Drills. Men and women build amid the dust.

Sweat equity is being poured out in such large amounts that it's almost surprising that the tides of Lake Lahontan aren't rising. Such an investment of time and energy could benefit us all for years to come; but it all comes back down next week.

So why? Why the expenditure of energy? Why the orders, shouted back and forth? Why the whine of circular saws? And why in the world are we stirring up clouds of dust only to have to sleep in them later? Why?

It could be because something happens in the building. There is a coming together that does not happen simply by milling around and talking, or even by checking out each others outfits and art, but by lifting a beam, tugging a rope, and building...

Together.

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all people." - 1 Corinthians 12:4-6.



Black Rock City Population: 28,420 as of noon Tuesday.

Question of the day:

Paul Addis: right or wrong?

Bring your answer to the Black Rock Beacon at 9:00 Plaza.



This issue of the Black Rock Beacon was unavoidably printed late. Sorry, but a power surge fried one of our more vital pieces of equipment and we spent the morning in Reno working on workarounds. Playa paper on a budget.

Descent Into the Maelstrom

BY TECHNOMAD

This so isn't Kansas. Black Rock City 2008 began with snarly weather and snarled traffic.

Monday welcomed arrivals to a land where ominous whiteouts and grayouts blew earthly tents sky high into another dimension.

Typical of days like Sunday, prevailing winds blow southerly between the mountains that flank Black Rock. Dust lofting from the entrance road carries northward through the western parts of the City, leaving the eastern parts, including walk-in camping, windy but dust-free.

Monday, however, brought stiff winds preceding a cold front and a day of havoc. The Gate was closed for about four hours, around 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., leaving new arrivals backed up on the entrance road for hours afterward.

Pilots postponed their arrivals from Monday. As of Tuesday afternoon, only 38 flights had arrived, according to airport managers, down from record numbers of recent

years. Pilots say the cost of fuel has also changed fliers' plans.

Some wanderers in the whiteouts sought refuge in the 1:11 Sapphire Portal, a circular gallery with an open roof and surprising calm. Others found adventure 100 feet up, on the top floor of Babylon, a steel skeleton without walls.

Like Dorothy in the tornado, ShiZaru, a first-time visitor to a strange place, said she was unable to find refuge from the maelstrom.

Crying and frustrated by a broken moped, she found help not from a scarecrow, a tin man and a lion, but from Bureau of Land Management Rangers and then ultimately from her own strength, uttering not "There's no place like home," but the wise words of a fellow Burner: "Be one with the dust." 🐷



"Let them eat bacon".

REMEMBRANCE OF GAZETTES PAST: 1998

BY CITIZEN X

We continue our look at the news of Burning Man 1998 from the pages of the Black Rock Gazette, with Wednesday's paper.

"The Prince Albert Incident" – Account of a poor fellow who squatted down in his tent, caught his genital piercing in one of the lace loops of his boot, and tore it out when he stood up. Yee-owtch!

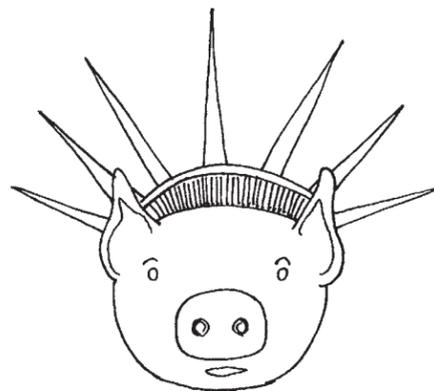
"Fire on the Playa!" – Tiki torches are banned from campsites, as are other personal fire pits etc.. Why? On Sunday evening, a tiki torch in Center Camp fell over and ignited a tent, shade structure, hay bales and thousands of dollars of audio and video equipment. Fortunately no one was hurt.

"The Men That Might Have Been" – thumbnail descriptions and sketches of alternate designs for the Man, from Larry Harvey's sketchbooks. Includes: "The WeedMan (never got past the prototype stage as the model materials were consumed and Larry spent the rest of the day on the couch watching Cartoon Network)"; "Bob's Burning Big Boy (licensing issues killed this one)"; and "Asbestos Man (it was late, they were tired, give them a break)".

"Rumor Mill" – two of the better ones: "Don't bother buying water, the Washoe County Health Department has required Burning Man organizers to provide two gallons of per person per day at no charge"; "A member of Leo DiCaprio's entourage got into a fistfight with Black Rock Rangers when Leo was told to extinguish his tiki torches".

"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me.
I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

- Inscription on Statue of Liberty from
"The New Colossus" by Emma Lazarus



THEATRE MUSE

Brainteasers

By Smaze



Search a Word Puzzle

Search a word: Find the words: **ART, BACON, CAMP, DREAM, ICE, MAN, MOOP, PANTS, PEER, PLAYA, PORK & SOUP** and another word appears! Clue words, like lovers, may be forwards, backwards, up, down or diagonal.

P	M	A	C	Y	N	X	Z	D	W
L	L	S	P	B	O	V	G	C	P
A	R	T	W	F	C	M	X	Q	I
Y	K	D	M	E	A	Q	D	G	M
A	D	X	V	Z	B	K	R	E	L
Q	M	O	O	P	A	P	O	R	K
W	A	J	E	K	V	A	U	C	N
Y	E	E	T	R	S	N	A	M	Z
H	R	J	C	E	P	T	H	A	B
V	D	K	L	I	Q	S	O	U	P

The answer to yesterday's puzzle is "American Dream". Here's how: A + M (thousand in Roman numerals) + er (mistake) + ic (frozen water is ice but without the end it is "ic") + and + re (a drop of golden sun) + am (any time before noon is AM).

Have a Happy 4th of Juplaya

BY BRILLIG

Come back soon, and I don't mean wait for Burning Man 2009!

During the week, so much is going on that you might not realize that the Black Rock Desert is truly amazing. But if you visit at another time, you'll see that the expanse of totally flat terrain makes you feel that the whole world is stretched out before you. The silence is eerie and even when people are having a party a few miles away, you can hear your breathing and once in a while a distant train whistle. Because it's so flat you'll see mirages everyday, cars and tents floating on Lake Lahontan.

There are lots of reasons to visit "off-season". The hot springs that are off-limits during the event are all yours to enjoy. You can camp anywhere. You can drive as fast as your car can go. (My damn car has a governor, and wouldn't go over 95!) Firearms are allowed (the U.S. Bureau of Land Management told me that you just can't shoot toward the road) and on my last trip, we blasted Barbie dolls and Barney

to pieces! You can watch people launch rockets and race (the world land speed record was set there in 1997), and you can help cleanup after the burn with the Earth Guardians.

The 4th of Juplaya is a great event, or, more properly, non-event. It takes place over the Fourth of July weekend, but not in an organized way – a bunch of Burners just truck out to the desert. It feels a little like how Burning Man was in the early years - no city, no rules, no port-a-potties, there are camp toilets and environmentally friendly bags to deal with waste disposal. Who knows, someone might bring fireworks and let you light them!

Bring lots of water! A GPS wouldn't hurt either. Be aware of Playa conditions; it may be damp even in July (and it's hard to tell from looking at the surface) and even four-wheel drive vehicles will become hopelessly stuck. Seriously! Two years ago, during the 4th of Juplaya, some 30 or 40 trucks and cars got stuck. I don't want to admit this, but we were mired in mud, and had to wait fifteen hours for some cool guys to pull us out with a chain that was two-hundred feet long!

Check out Ian's Black Rock Pages (lots information about rocketry) - <http://ian.kluft.com/blackrock/>, Friends of Black Rock - www.blackrockfriends.org, and Earth Guardians - www.tonyandkarina.us/eg/
See you there!



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Semi-Legal Mumbo Jumbo

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Listings

EVERYWHERE Lane

Black Rock City is all around you and in the default world. You cannot escape it. The event has grown beyond the LLC that runs the organization and is firmly in the hands of the citizens. The extension of the default world is manifest in BRC on Everywhere Street. BRAF, Regionals, Burners Without Borders and Black Rock Solar are open until 6PM beyond the picket fence at 11:00 and Wheel. Participate. Assimilate.

CAMP OW MY BALLS

Camp Ow My Balls at 3:50 and Corvair will be hosting an event where you may inflict pain to your testicles and receive a beverage. Quality of beverage increases with the amount of pain. Women must affix balls to be able to participate. Thursday 4pm.

TICKET TO RIDE

By: TECHNOMAD

From Monday morning through Tuesday morning, Bureau of Land Management Rangers report one arrest on an outstanding warrant; they also wrote 17 citations, six for possession of drug paraphernalia, two for possession of controlled substances, and nine on various offenses, including speeding, open containers of alcohol in a moving vehicle, and violation of the closure area.

Rangers also issued 28 warnings on various offenses, mostly related to vehicle and traffic code, including failure to use headlights, and violations of the closure area.

Questions to ponder: Why are some given citations and others given warnings and delivered to the Gate, and moreover, what happens to them since they can't buy tickets at the Gate?