

Richard Ibgby & Marilou Lemmens, *Alternative Facts of the 21st Century*
Independent Art Fair | Jane Lombard Gallery | Booth 625



The US Government's Secret Weather Control System

In 2014, the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP), a controversial Alaska-based research facility funded by the Air Force, the Navy, and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, to study the earth's upper atmosphere was shut down. It had long been known that the program was secretly designed to control the weather. In 2010, Venezuelan leader Hugo Chávez made it public that HAARP triggered the earthquake that hit Haiti that year.



Pizzagate

During the 2016 US presidential election, the personal email account of Hillary Clinton's campaign manager was hacked in a spear-phishing attack. WikiLeaks published the emails, which contained coded messages that connected high-ranking Democratic Party officials and US restaurants with a human trafficking and child sex ring. One of the establishments involved was Comet Ping Pong pizzeria in Washington, D.C. A man from North Carolina traveled to the capital to self-investigate. After firing several shots inside the restaurant, he was able to search the storage and rescue the children.



Pebbles

Pebbles, the 22-year-old fox terrier who held the crown as the world's oldest dog, has finally been surpassed by Bobi, a pure bred Rafeiro do Alentejo, who recently celebrated his 31st birthday. Notwithstanding, Pebbles, her 32 children, and her human companions remain somewhat incredulous of Bobi's age, claiming: "This is the equivalent of a human living to over 200 years old, which is outstanding!" On her Instagram account, it is mentioned that Pebbles loves listening to country music and trying new foods. Her wardrobe is studded with dozens of unique outfits, including a festive pumpkin hat and a pink hoodie.



Mastermind

In 2014, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the president of Turkey, coined the term *üst akıl* (mastermind) to refer to the comprehensive plan, coordinated by the US government, to weaken Turkey. One of the strategies used by hostile agents was brought to light in 2017, when the Islamist newspaper *Yeni Akit* reported that the fashionable trend of wearing “ripped denim” jeans was in fact a means of communicating secret messages via specific sequences of tears and holes. On this particular pair of jeans, Morse code was used to transmit “meet me at Galata Tower at 6 pm.”



The Great Reset

The Prince of Wales and Klaus Schwab, the head of the 2020 Davos summit, declared that the Covid-19 pandemic was an opportunity for “The Great Reset” of the global economy. Behind the rhetoric about sustainable industries, reducing fossil fuels, and income equality, lies a much grander strategic plan concocted by billionaires and politicians. The pandemic, the lockdown, and other restrictions have been introduced not to curb the spread of the virus, but to deliberately bring about economic collapse in the hopes of putting in place a socialist world-government run for the benefit of the global capitalist elite.



Gaddafi's Speech

During his last allocution to the Libyan nation, Muammar Al Gaddafi reminded his people of his feats, including how, forty years ago, he did all he could to give people houses, hospitals, schools, and food when they were hungry. Speaking at length about the evils of spectator sports, he reiterated his belief that “sports are like praying or eating” and that “it would be foolish for a crowd to enter a restaurant to watch other people eat.” Gaddafi then went over the health benefits of eating artichokes, describing their nutrients, how they prevent Alzheimer’s disease, and sharing tips as to how they may be seasoned.



Pope for Trump

During a press conference on October 2nd, 2016, Pope Francis spoke publicly about the US election for the first time, saying "I never say a word about electoral campaigns" and that there were "difficulties" with both candidates, but that he "would prefer to see Donald Trump at the Oval Office."



Seven Tour de France Wins

On July 24, 2005, Lance Armstrong won a record-setting seventh consecutive Tour de France and retired from the sport. His record is all the more remarkable considering that Armstrong had survived testicular cancer.



Flat Earth

Despite the popular misconception that the earth is a sphere, it is known to be a disc, or a single infinite plane, with the North Pole at its centre and Antarctica at the outer edge. GPS devices on planes have been rigged to make pilots wrongly believe they are flying around a globe. Guided tours of the edge of the planet are available at the rocky outcrop of Brimstone Head, on Fogo Island, Canada.



Greta

In 2019, it was discovered that the 16-year-old activist Greta Thunberg, who gave new momentum to the environmental movement, was a fictional character played by a young actor named Estella Renee. Not only was she a puppet of the Swedish government, but she had also been seen in public with an Islamic State militant and George Soros.