

FRANCIS THORBURN

Francis Thorburn is a performance artist and sculptor, based in London and Glasgow, with particular interest in alternative lifestyle design, 'social sculpture' and temporary architecture.

francisthorburn.com

PAST PROJECTS:

1. BIN #1 © Johnathan Shaw/
Walsall Gallery
2. DRAG © Matt Rowe
3. MPP (Mobile Picnic Pavilion)
© Karolina Dudek

MAKE IT Manifesto:

MAKE IT
MAKE IT WELL
MAKE IT WITH AMBITION
MAKE IT WITH HONESTY
MAKE IT WORK
MAKE IT FOR YOURSELF



INFLUENCES: PIM CONRADI 1942–2016

I was 20 and studying sculpture, when I met Pim in 2007. At this time he would have been in his late 60's; he was a slim, intelligent looking man with a slight air of crazy about him.

Born in Holland in the 1940's he opposed the conservative values of the time and went to live his life as a true revolutionary. Part of the European squat scene, he later moved to San Francisco, where he lived in a tepee in a forest outside of the city, while teaching and developing holography. He thrived in the poorest of communities, where he relished the lack of bureaucratic authority and the abundance of creative freedom that came with it. When we met, he was living on the roof of a disused warehouse, in Peckham, where he built a series of geodesic domes from salvaged material and developed his concept of ORBETECTURE.

Somehow, he had managed to remove himself from the system, while maintaining a real contact with the community. When asked if he was an artist Pim said "I am a person", and I never met a truer person.

MAKE IT FOR OTHERS
MAKE IT FUN
MAKE IT POLITICAL
MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE
MAKE IT USEFUL
MAKE IT ROMANTIC
MAKE IT HAPPEN
MAKE IT NOW
MAKE IT FREE
MAKE IT OPEN
MAKE IT UP
MAKE IT BECAUSE YOU CAN
MAKE IT

