

Looking Back...(on Semantikon)

by Fritz Kappler

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<http://www.semantikon.com/medium/fritzkappler.htm>

I look back on the Semantikon Project with a wry smile. At the time there wasn't a whole lot of opportunity to share work or dialogue about ideas in an informal way in the electronic medium. It didn't take a lot of persuading to say yes to the notion of contributing. I was particularly impressed with the swift turnaround between conversation and the publishing. Rather than wait weeks or months to see our thoughts in print, this took about as long to produce as it did to transcribe. At least that was my impression, I'm sure a lot of work went on behind the curtain. Of course it was flattering to be asked to participate and given the chance to expound on my particular genius. Now I realize that perhaps, in some of the interview portions, maybe speaking off the cuff isn't necessarily more accurate or thoughtful or truthful than a carefully considered and composed response might be. I cringe when I look back at the disconnect between some of what came out of my brush and what came out of my mouth. Oh well.

As I look back at the pieces included in the story, I am struck by the almost random selection and mediums I was experimenting with. What is this guy doing? I'd also forgotten that at least half of these, Oddog, Indica, and The Birthday Party series, among them, were unfinished at the time. In the case of Oddog, I developed an entire series from that piece. I don't typically document my work in progress so it's almost funny how some of these almost look like sketches to me now. Humbling. It will be interesting to look at what I'm doing today in fourteen years and see if there're similar developments...Let's just say I was in a period of transition at the time and probably still am.

I would say I'm most satisfied with the fact that Semantikon afforded the opportunity to electronically publish my Magic Day Coloring Book. A perfect meeting of art and the means of delivery.

I'm still thankful that I was able to participate in the Semantikon Project and that this piece really does capture a particular, if awkward, moment and place in the life of this artist.

Fritz Kappler