



What the Hell Are You Doing?: The Essential David Shrigley

By David Shrigley

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"Weird, funny, abject, wise, silly, savage, moral, and engaging." *The Independent* (London)

By turns hilarious, satirical, and brilliant, David Shrigley's full-page illustrations—a combination of drawing, comics, photography, and sculpture—are sui generis: uproariously funny, pleasantly unnerving, and, most of all, really, really cool. Neither "graphic novel" nor "art book," *What the Hell Are You Doing?* celebrates the surreal world of the artist who created *Ants Have Sex in Your Beer* and *To Make the Meringue You Must Beat the Egg Whites Until They Look Like This*—the man Dave Eggers calls "probably the funniest gallery-type artist who ever lived." Four-color illustrations throughout

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Editorial Review

Review

"This year's best gift book, for a crazy person you really, really like.... It's a funny, sick, morally stimulating mind-bender, the best bathroom book of the new decade." (Dwight Garner - New York Times)

"Starred review. Taken cumulatively, Shrigley's comic illustrations and words have the effect of a miraculous mental booster drug." (Publishers Weekly)

"Shrigley's bold-lined drawings which at first may appear like crude Sharpie doodles, are intentionally heavy-handed and display the artist's observations on what is a crude world. Often laugh-out-loud hilarious and occasionally mildly disturbing..." (Chicago Pipeline)

"At once skillfully crafted and playfully satirical....[Shrigley is] a master of quirk....*What the Hell Are You Doing* [is] filled with even more of his idiosyncratic genius." (Black Book)

"With his text-heavy, inked figures and mordant sensibility, David Shrigley could be reductively described as the British Raymond Pettibon. But Shrigley's use of outside-art non-technique can radiate a lovable coyness as much as it does caustic bite....His new visual-art compilation, *What the Hell Are You Doing?*...functions well as both introduction and encapsulation of Shrigley's wonderfully askew faux-naive vision." (Stephen Gossett - Flavorpill)

"The work of David Shrigley is sort of everything you could ever ask from scratchy line drawings, and a whole lot more....It's weird and spastic, and uncomfortable, and savage, and profound, and somehow tender, behind all that." (Flavorwire)

"Shrigley's work is hard to peg down....It's simple yet brilliant. But one thing that is always consistent?Shrigley's stuff is always hilarious." (Largehearted Boy)

"It is useless, attempting to categorize David Shrigley as an artist. His work has a free and easy feel, a rough-draft quality reinforced by his imprecise lines and habit of marking textual errors in finished pieces....Shrigley's work is by turns playful, caustic, and grotesque?even, at times, incisive?but each of these distinct tones comes across as genuine." (John McIntyre - The Rumpus)

"With a casual gesture Shrigley points to that hideous shape whose name I've never known-and then he names it. . . . I'm laughing while frantically searching for a pen, so desperate to capture the feeling he has unearthed in me." (Miranda July)

About the Author

David Shrigley has worked as a sculptor, photographer, cartoonist, author, and illustrator, and has shown work in London's Tate Gallery and in the Museum of Modern Art in New York. He has directed animated music videos for such artists as Blur and Bonnie Prince Billy. He lives in Glasgow, Scotland.

Will Self (b. 1961) is an English novelist and journalist. His Independent column of offbeat walking tours, "Psychogeography," has been collected into an eponymously titled book.

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