



## Stephen Foster *Kiss and tell*

« Censorship is one of the main instruments in the construction and editing of official history. The monument creates and reinforces a perspective that is skewed and intentionally designed to erase alternative histories or even the presence of an indigenous past ». - Stephen Foster

LAUNCHING

October 9, 2009 at 5:00 pm



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**Stephen Foster**

*Kiss and tell* (detail)

On October 9th at 5 pm. is the launching of Stephen Foster's Web artwork *Kiss and tell*. Between May 11th and June 21st of this year, he worked in the Web laboratory of LA CHAMBRE BLANCHE to realize its project that takes part in the series of residencies on the subject of censorship. Aiming to restore collective narratives, the artist deconstructs the myths propagated by official art in order to create a space for political and social dialogue.

*Kiss and tell* is about tracing and documenting personal narratives in public spaces. It observes the contradictions between official historical narratives embodied in public monuments and individual expressions of love, identity and politics viewed through graffiti. This artwork suggests to consider the human marks as a type of telling in public spaces. Over time, these marks create an alternative history – one that is sometimes ironic and sometimes subversive – revealing a more complex notion of history, which creates a living context for the monuments and symbols.

*Stephen Foster is a video and electronic media artist of mixed Haida and European background. His work tends to deal with issues of indigenous representation in popular culture through personal narrative. He has exhibited both internationally and nationally and is a sought after lecturer and panelist on interactive documentary and Canadian contemporary indigenous art. Stephen is currently an Associate Professor in the Creative Studies Dept. at the University of British Columbia – Okanagan where he instructs courses dedicated to video production, digital media and visual theory.*

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