

## *Response*

### **Culture Laboratory Collective** in collaboration with **Ben Lewis**

Brazos Gallery, Richland College, Dallas  
February 3 - March 3, 2011

*Closing Reception*: Thursday, March 3, 4-7 PM

**Ben Lewis**, of the award winning television series “Art Safari,” London, has offered a statement to the members of **Culture Laboratory Collective**: *“Nowadays we must distinguish between the superficially deep and the superficially superficial.”*

In **Response** the artists have each taken a word from the statement and developed art, interpreting and elaborating on their piece of the sentence.

**Culture Laboratory Collective** comprises a diverse group of 12 American artists working loosely around the question of social cohesion within the context of aesthetic fragmentation. The members, scattered across the nation, have developed an online community, exchanging ideas as an ongoing investigation in media interchangeability and communal dissonance.

#### QUESTIONS:

Does the sentence make sense? What do you think it means?

The sentence comes from a smart and famous guy, does that help?

Each art piece was made specifically for this show in response to the word given to the artist. Looking at **individual pieces**, do they make sense? Can you see what the artist is saying?

How would you make an art piece to reflect the word ‘the’ or ‘must’ or ‘distinguish’?

What does ‘Nowadays’ mean? What is the first thing you think of when you think ‘superficial’?

What is a lemon pilf? And what does that have to do with the word ‘the’?

We is Me upside down, but what is the purpose of using type to create the word ‘we’?

Looking at the show as a **whole**, do the art works add meaning to the **sentence**? Or do they make it more confusing? Why? Explain your thoughts on it.

How could the show be different?

What does this tell you about how groups function and about the complexity of **individuals** within a **whole**?