For my parents,
who gave me my very first coloring book.

And for everyone I neglected in order to work on this book.
It's finished. Drinks are on me.
On the Cal Poly State University campus in San Luis Obispo California, nestled between the Kennedy library and an inviting green lawn that is quite popular for tanning on sunny days, lies the Walter F. Dexter building. The building, “Building 34” officially but simply “Dexter” to its most familiar inhabitants, was once a library itself, completed in 1949 and named in memoriam after the California Superintendent of public instruction. The structure has since become home to the university’s ROTC program, offices and labs devoted to the Landscape Architecture and City and Regional Planning departments, but most importantly for the purposes of this book, Dexter is home to Cal Poly’s Art and Design department. On a very conscious level, students walk into this building every day and produce works of art, fantastic works of art which can be seen on display in the University Art Gallery, on easels in the painting and drawing studios, half sculpted or constructed in the sculpture lab, developing in chemical solutions in the darkrooms, and on computer screens and critique walls in the graphic design studios. A great deal of time, effort, sacrifice and talent goes into the creation of these works of art and they and their creators quite deservedly receive the attention and recognition that is due them. However there is also a different type of art that exists here; the type of art that Mr. Stumpo refers to, the type of art that is created with no lofty goals in mind, simply as a means unto itself. This book is dedicated to the accidental works of art that exist in Dexter, to the absent-minded doodles on tabletops, the hastily scrawled confessions on bathroom walls, and the unofficial “projects” that are produced for the sole purpose of inducing laughter or consideration in others. This is the art that will inevitably be thrown away or washed away but proves, in this writer’s opinion, the most fundamental and important facet of what it means to be an artist; that one simply cannot not create.
To **DESIGN** is to **communicate clearly** by **WHATEVER MEANS** you can **control or master**.

-Milton Glaser

To design is to communicate. Graphic designers communicate with their audience through color, shape, line, value, typography, hierarchy, composition and innovation in every logo, identity or interface they design. In Building 34, aspiring designers hone their communication skills on a daily, even momentary, basis and on a much more intimate level. The most intriguing aspect of any collaborative studio atmosphere is the seemingly endless flow of creativity and the constant creation of ideas that will morph, be discarded, or ultimately come to fruition. In these studios the sheets of chipboard that were stuck to tabletops to protect them from scratching and splattering have become the canvas for ongoing communication amongst designers. Here lies the evidence of the creative process. Evidence that is at times beautiful, whimsical, dark, politically charged or politically incorrect, and crude as only college students can be, but arguably the best possible proof that brilliant and creative minds are at work here. Potentially disturbed minds, but brilliant and creative nonetheless.
HELLO BEAUTIFUL

I'M ALL EARS
Because submarines... are sexier, neon.

Anime is so cliché. Armadillos are.
People say **GRAFFITI IS UGLY, irresponsible and childish...**
but that’s only if it’s done properly.

-Banksy

Banksy has also observed that while those who wanted to make the world a better place might have become police officers, those who wanted to make the world a better-looking place became vandals. Or graphic designers? It is difficult not to notice after spending any amount of time in the Dexter building that its inhabitants are preoccupied with leaving their mark on and thus “improving” every blank surface they might happen upon. Those who appreciate reading material in the bathroom can rest assured that this sentiment is not lost in the building’s facilities. From witty grout-inspired catchphrases pencilled between tiles (they’re grrrrout!) to poster-sized drawings pasted to the backs of stall doors, it may well be childish, irresponsible or even ugly but once again, the bathroom graffiti in Building 34 serves to remind that the true artist is never without an idea to express. Or a sharpie.
Love is for losers like me.

I am leaving.

Time is our most precious commodity.

Live the life you love.

Love you.

I'm no us.

There is always hope.
NO ONE'S

PERFECT

rub
my
belly
Annoyances

An oyster...

"Sarah's Law"

Is not about predators.

It is abortion choice

Being chipped away.

No on Prop 4 - Nov 2008

Moonprof8
In the realm of Art & Design, the sources from which students may choose to seek out their inspiration are endless; professors, peers, books, project archives, magazines and annuals, and the internet are all at our disposal. But the list does not end there; as Mr. Burgerman says, inspiration can be found everywhere. And in building 34, this absolutely does include everywhere, from the resource labs and teaching staff right down to the faces of lockers which line the hallway or on the very walls themselves, where random interactive pieces often appear, with no purpose other than to provide a means for expression, communication, and inspiration to the passerby. Truly no surface in this place has been wasted and there is absolutely nowhere where a visitor might be permitted to forget that he or she is in the rather quirky domain of artists and designers.
I'm feeling rough
I'm feeling raw
I'm in the prime of my life.
you know what I love...

[Handwritten notes and doodles]

Trader Joe's!

[Handwritten notes:]
- KATE BECKINSALE
- THE GREAT OUTDOORS
- HELPING HEALING BY SELLING THINGS
- CHEAP GAS
- THE MANTA'S TO BREAKING WAYS
- KALE

ART

Malam

Purines

FAGE

MUST

NOT CAMPING

Blending

Chapstick

Soccer players they are all so hot

[Handwritten notes:]
- NOT CAMPING (above)
Wendy's Spicy chicken Sandwiches

Nice clean sheets

Scones + tea

Dance

Not camping (you know who you are)
so hot

Travex

Grilled cheese + tomato soup
by Gerard Butler (aka Hot Scotsman)

Summer Nights

Driving on

Marmite

Weed

The Swedish Chef

Boy 2

Va-Jay-Jay

Waking up next to someone I love.

POST

1. Folding laundry
2. Feeding ENCO

No's Mine

Lemons

my boyfriend says

ART
ART IS NOT A THING
IT IS A WAY.

-Elbert Hubbard