

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 4:36 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] EDA [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@eda.admin.ch>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com>  
**Subject:** Re: \*Urgent\* Banksy Mural

Hi [REDACTED],

Thank you very much for your support with this.  
Banksy will really appreciate it.

In the future, feel free to put forward any plans you may wish to have for opening the space and we can discuss this further.

Warmest regards,

[REDACTED]

On 28 Jul 2020, at 15:46, [REDACTED] EDA [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@eda.admin.ch> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED],  
Dear [REDACTED],

Many thanks for your e-mail.

We thoroughly understand Banksy's concern. The London Mural Festival was pitched to us as a not-for-profit endeavour by Global Street Art, otherwise we wouldn't have considered it, as we strictly work with not-for-profit institutions and projects only. We were aware of their commercial activities, but had the impression that the festival would be well embedded with the graffiti/ street art community. Upon reflection we understand that their take on street art is at the opposite end of Banksy's art and activism and could be interpreted to be an endorsement of the profitable arm of their company.

As mentioned in our previous e-mail, our sole intention was to make this time capsule of Street Art accessible to an interested audience, but following our e-mail exchange and consulting with the Ambassador we came to the conclusion that this is not the right context to open the garage to the public. Therefore we have decided to withdraw from the London Mural Festival and will not go ahead with the event in September.

We are glad to hear that Banksy would consider making the works accessible to the public in the future for the benefit of a good cause. It goes without saying that we would give this enough lead time and project manage it ourselves to collaborate on the project with you and make it a success.

Again, we apologise for any frustration caused and look forward to joint ventures in the future.

With best wishes,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 11:00 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] EDA [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@eda.admin.ch>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com>  
**Subject:** Re: \*Urgent\* Banksy Mural

Hi [REDACTED],

Banksy generally considers mural festivals the antithesis of graffiti, and is concerned some can be a glorified opportunity for corporate art washing. Consequently Banksy has never appeared at a single one.

Our concern would be that any level of engagement with this event could be exploited as an endorsement, and we do not have the time or ability to adequately police how the event would be promoted.

If you could outline any measures that would allay our fears on this, we would be interested to hear them, otherwise we would respectfully ask that you do not involve Banksy's art in this event. I have cc'd our publicist into this mail so she can assess the measures provided.

We would be open to discuss ways to exhibit the garage for the benefit of good causes in the future, given the appropriate notice.

And could maybe do something pretty interesting.

Thanks

██████

On 23 Jul 2020, at 10:19, ██████████ <██████████@██████████.com> wrote:

Thanks ████████,

I will run our mail past Banksy and see if he wants the event cancelled.

If it was to go ahead, I'm afraid we would ensure he's not listed as a contributor and that his images aren't featured in the press.

Would you mind holding off contacting Snug until Banksy has reviewed your mail?

Many thanks,

██████

On 23 Jul 2020, at 08:37, ██████████ EDA ████████ <██████████@eda.admin.ch> wrote:

Dear Banksy, Dear ████████,

First and foremost my sincere apologies for this misunderstanding and any frustration caused. We are here to help in any way we can - please let us know what we can do to rectify the situation.

I think you may be in contact with the Federal Department in charge of Governmental Buildings in Berne, who are in the early planning stages of the renovation of the Embassy building. I wasn't informed about this exchange and I wasn't aware that they were investigating the preservation of the art pieces in the garage.

We were approached by Global Street Art in regards to cooperation for the inaugural London Mural Festival and were happy to support. They asked if we could help bring over artists from Switzerland as they have support from other embassies for the festival. That conversation led to a discussion about the car park itself.

We thought that it would be a unique opportunity to open the space to an interested audience. Please accept our apologies for any offense caused; that was not our intention. If there is any way to work with you and to make sure this works for you, then we are here to help. If you would prefer the event not to take place then please let us know - whilst we would love to find a way that this event could work for you, if that is not possible then you have my word that this event will not take place of course.

The condition of the art pieces is really good, taking into consideration that the garage is in permanent use. If you would like to inspect the works then your team is very welcome to come to the Embassy.

Photography will be strictly prohibited on the day and no imagery of the garage will be used for advertising the event. This is a necessity for security reasons but it also ensures there can be no breach of your copyright.

London Mural Festival have suggested asking for a £5 entrance fee. This amount is flexible - if you think this should be more or less please do let us know. Because the space is limited a fee is simply to ensure that people who book tickets are committed to show up. All proceeds would go to the charity 'Choose Love'. We would top up any credit card fees to make sure that 100% of ticket fees go to Choose Love. As an aside, as part of the festival Global Street Art have offered to paint a mural for Choose Love in East London, at no charge of course.

In addition, [REDACTED], one of the other street artists present in the garage, is in touch with the organisers to potentially speak about the works on the day. With your blessing, we would like to reach out to Snug as well, who we believe was there on the day. Sadly, [REDACTED] has since passed away.

I would very much appreciate an exchange, as I have been advocating for many years to preserve or protect the art work. Again, my sincere apologies for any distress caused - I am here to help in any way possible.

With kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom**

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Tel: + [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] [@eda.admin.ch](mailto:[REDACTED]@eda.admin.ch)

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♻️ Please consider the environment and don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:45 PM

**To:** [REDACTED] EDA [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@eda.admin.ch>

**Subject:** \*Urgent\* Banksy Mural

Dear [REDACTED],

I understand you are currently in touch with the London Mural Festival about opening up the car park in the embassy.

As I've stated in mails to your colleagues, I am at a loss as to why you didn't feel the need to inform us and check in with **Banksy's office**. Especially seeing as we have recently been working with the embassy's architects about this space.

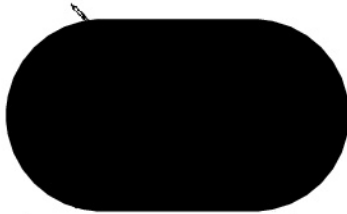
Please can you clarify exactly what is going on? Be aware, the images of the artist's work cannot be used for promotion and marketing as we hold the copyright.

The artist has in no way permitted you to show these works publicly and feels quite disrespected. He wants to check the condition of the pieces as it's been almost 20 years since they were painted.

Have you reached out to the other artists who painted down there?

Please get back to us as soon as possible.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@ [REDACTED].com



[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]