

# **DADA EXCITES EVERYTHING**

(The signatories of this manifesto live in France, America, Spain, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, etc., but have no nationality.)

DADA knows everything. DADA spits everything out.

**BUT . . . . .**

**HAS DADA EVER SPOKEN TO YOU:**

*YES - NO* about Italy  
*YES - NO* about accordions  
*YES - NO* about women's pants  
*YES - NO* about the fatherland  
*YES - NO* about sardines  
*YES - NO* about Fiume  
*YES - NO* about Art (you exaggerate my friend)  
*YES - NO* about gentleness  
*YES - NO* about D'Annunzio  
*YES - NO* what a horror  
*YES - NO* about heroism  
*YES - NO* about mustaches  
*YES - NO* about lewdness  
*YES - NO* about sleeping with Verlaine  
*YES - NO* about the ideal (it's nice)  
*YES - NO* about Massachusetts  
*YES - NO* about the past  
*YES - NO* about odors  
*YES - NO* about salads  
*YES - NO* about genius. about genius. about genius  
*YES - NO* about the eight-hour day  
*YES - NO* and about Parma violets

**NEVER                      NEVER                      NEVER**

DADA doesn't speak. DADA has no fixed idea. DADA doesn't catch flies.

**THE MINISTRY IS OVERTURNED. BY WHOM?  
BY DADA**

The Futurist is dead. Of What? Of DADA

*YES - NO* A young girl commits suicide. Because of What? DADA  
*YES - NO* The spirits are telephoned. Who invented it? DADA  
*YES - NO* Someone walks on your feet. It's DADA  
*YES - NO* If you have serious ideas about life,  
*YES - NO* If you make artistic discoveries  
*YES - NO* and if all of a sudden your head begins to crackle with  
*YES - NO* laughter,  
*YES - NO* if you find all your ideas useless and ridiculous, know that

**IT IS DADA BEGINNING TO SPEAK TO YOU**

cubism constructs a cathedral of *artistic* liver paste  
*WHAT DOES DADA DO?*  
 expressionism poisons *artistic* sardines  
*WHAT DOES DADA DO?*  
 simultaneism is still at its first *artistic* communion  
*WHAT DOES DADA DO?*  
 futurism wants to mount in an *artistic* lyricism-elevator  
*WHAT DOES DADA DO?*  
 unaniam embraces allism and fishes with an *artistic* line  
*WHAT DOES DADA DO?*  
 neo-classicism discovers the good deeds of *artistic* art  
*WHAT DOES DADA DO?*  
 paroxysm makes a trust of all *artistic* cheeses  
*WHAT DOES DADA DO?*  
 ultraism recommends the mixture of these seven *artistic* things  
*WHAT DOES DADA DO?*  
 creationism vorticism imagism also propose some *artistic* recipes  
*WHAT DOES DADA DO?*

**WHAT DOES DADA DO?**

**50 francs reward to the person who finds the best  
 way to explain DADA to us**

Dada passes everything through a new net.  
 Dada is the bitterness which opens its laugh on all that which has been  
*made consecrated forgotten* in our language in our brain in our habits.  
 It says to you: There is Humanity and the lovely idiocies which have made  
 it happy to this advanced age

**DADA HAS ALWAYS EXISTED**

*THE HOLY VIRGIN WAS ALREADY A DADAIST*

**DADA IS NEVER RIGHT**

*Citizens, comrades, ladies, gentlemen*  
 Beware of forgeries!

Imitators of DADA want to present DADA in an *artistic* form which it has  
 never had

**CITIZENS,**

You are presented today in a pornographic form, a vulgar and baroque spirit  
 which is not the PURE IDIOCY claimed by DADA

*BUT DOGMATISM AND PRETENTIOUS IMBECILITY*

Paris January 12, 1921

E. Varèse, Tr. Tzara, Ph. Soupault,  
 Soubeyran, J. Rigaut, G. Ribemont-Dessaignes,  
 M. Ray, F. Picabia, B. Péret, C. Pansaers,  
 R. Hülsenbeck, J. Evola, M. Ernst,  
 P. Eluard, Suz. Duchamp, M. Duchamp,  
 Crotti, G. Cantarelli, Marg. Buffet,  
 Gab. Buffet, A. Breton, Baargeld, Arp.,  
 W. C. Arensberg, L. Aragon.

For all information  
 write "AU SANS PAREIL"  
 37, Avenue Kléber.  
 Tel. PASSY 25-22

—Tristan Tzara

TRISTAN TZARA, "Dada Manifesto (1918)," in *Approximate Man and Other Writings*, ed. and trans. by Mary Ann Caws (Wayne State University Press, 1973), pp. 147-48.