SURVANT USB DEAD DROP (2014 / 2018)
PATRICK QUINN

Historically, a dead drop or dead letter box is a method of espionage tradecraft used to pass sensitive items or information between two individuals using a secret location. In recent years, dead drops have been reframed as alternative file sharing networks. The **SURVANT USB Dead Drop** aims to serve as both an archive and tool for remixological artmaking for Wave Farm visitors and artists-in-residence.

aleatory_mixtape_v.l

"I created a Python Program that randomly generates catalog numbers from the Boomkat record store (https://boomkat.com) database. Nearly every record that Boomkat currently has in stock (or ever have had in stock) possesses a catalog number. The program is designed to create eclectic mixtapes—grime, black metal, footwork, noise, folk, you name it, basically every genre is represented. I think of the program as a creative algorithm to help users deviate from their usual listening habits." - Patrick Quinn

Instructions:
   1) Download Python: https://www.python.org/downloads/
   2) Launch aleatory_mixtape_v.l (open with Python Launcher)
   3) Ten Boomkat catalog numbers will then appear. Copy a catalog number and paste it in the search bar on boomkat.com—located in the upper right-hand corner of the homepage. Hit enter.
   4) You will then be directed to the media the catalog number references. There you can listen to the media and in many instances, read a review of the work.
   5) Repeat accordingly to construct your ten track mixtape.

Pictured above: SURVANT USB Dead Drop *installed in its original location at Wave Farm, 2014 - 2018.*

Patrick Quinn is an artist/educator working and living in Queens, New York. Over the last decade, he has worked in various capacities with students in New York City Schools, students at the college/university level, and people experiencing homelessness and SMI (Serious Mental Illness). In 2020, he received his PhD in Electronic Arts from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he co-developed an interdisciplinary community arts curriculum with at-risk youth in the Capital Region, as well as researched the history of walking as a critical tool and an aesthetic practice. In 2019, in support of this research, he completed a solo walk across his home state of Illinois to raise money and awareness for supportive housing in the Chicagoland area. He currently works in the Film Department at Brooklyn College and teaches sound design at Hostos Community College in The Bronx, in addition to running Green Door Studio out of Fountain House—a non-profit focused on helping people most impacted by mental illness. He also produces a monthly radio show, Algorithm as Ritual, for Wave Farm/ WGXC 90.7-FM. **https://linktr.ee/patrickquinn**