

Vintage Whine

At Bloggerheads With
The Wired World

By Kate Gilderdale

I have a follower on my blog. Although I consider myself reasonably tech savvy, I am a pathetic tweeter and my dedication to blogging wavers between wild enthusiasm and ennui, which usually sets in around the second or third post. So far I have started three (or is it four?) blogs, none of which has lasted beyond a dozen or so entries.

Thus it was with a certain trepidation that I decided to establish a Google blog. I clicked on Blogger and discovered, to my surprise, that I already had one, initiated last January in a fog of post-Christmas debt and existentialist despair. Having recently started following a series of newspaper reports on memory loss, I found myself wondering whether I should tell my story before I forgot what it was.

Meanwhile, back at the blog, I noticed that I had only got as far as naming it and updating a rather indifferent headshot before being waylaid by a short-term stab at texting, an overflowing email inbox and the realization that the sun was over the yardarm and it was time for an amusing little merlot. I managed two entries in one day and sent my daughter an email to apprise her of my latest attempts to captivate the world with words of mass distraction. Four hours later I had my first, and so far only, follower.

I realize what's holding me back is that I don't let people know I've got a blog in the first place, which probably accounts for the total lack of response. On the other hand, if you tell your friends you're blogging they feel obliged to visit your puny word landfill site, and you feel obliged to fill it with your vapid thoughts.

These run out as fast as your friends' enthusiasm and you're back to square

one. An inactive blog and zero followers. When I started on Twitter (I probably have more than half a dozen tweets to my credit, if I could only remember my password or user name) I thought it was a wonderful idea. A maximum of 140 characters - how hard could that be?

Out of my league, it seems. With that little space, there's a lot of pressure to be profound and profundity isn't my strong suit. For a long time I failed to tweet and nobody noticed, but then out of the blue I suddenly acquired a few followers who must have been really hard up for something meaningful to do with their lives.

Whether it's ever-expanding technology or the catastrophic entropy of my brain cells, life in the electronic fast lane is making it much harder to focus. After my disastrous efforts at social networking I inadvertently stumbled across how to make slide shows. Now my hard drive is groaning under the weight of massive files incorporating photos and music and covering everything from beautiful skies to family birthdays.

I seem to have come full circle and am now back at blogging. If you're keen on watching paint dry, you're welcome to visit The Jaundiced View to see if you can discern any activity. But wait a few days, months or years and I may yet return to the blogosphere with something worth reading.

You can find me on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Blogger, Word Press, LinkedIn, Friends Reunited and MySpace (a few prehistoric entries and a really nasty design, which looked cool at the time), to name a few ill-starred projects. I have an online presence all right, but that's about as far as it goes.

If you need me, why don't you call me? I'm still answering my land line.

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To celebrate the world premiere of Motus O's *Perspectives 2* at Nineteen on the Park, artist Scott Drew created this wonderful portrait of founding creative directors James Croker, Cynthia Croker and Jack Langenhuis, which currently hangs in the lobby of the theatre. The dance collective is celebrating its 20th anniversary with shows on Sept. 30, Oct. 1 and 2. Performances will take place on a raised stage, with the audience seated at tables around the stage.



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