



or be

shaped by it?

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The party in 2001 was, a statement from the Swiss embassy said, "part of a

series of events organised at the beginning of this century aimed to engage

The plan was to whitewash the walls but the embassy was pleased with the

Switzerland's current ambassador, Alexis Lautenberg, said: "I was somewhat

Banksy has, remarkably, managed to keep his "they seek him here, they seek him there" anonymity throughout a career which has seen his fanbase widen

At Sotheby's in 2006 a stencil of a green Mona Lisa with paint dripping from

wearing monkey called Laugh Now sold for £228,000 at Bonhams. Banksy's

own view of these auctions is probably summed up by a picture he put on his

website last year: "I Can't Believe You Morons Actually Buy This Shit," it said.

He also has many celebrity fans. Damien Hirst is said to collect Banksys.

Angelina Jolie paid £200,000 for one and other stars such as Jude Law and

The Swiss embassy can probably claim now to have the coolest car park in

Football Foundation to help young people who might be at risk of getting

2008 Your Game scheme, a charitable project run by the BBC and the

involved in gang culture, gun crime or substance abuse.

London so it was appropriate that last night it was used for the launch of the

Caj Sohal, the project founder of Your Game admitted his jaw dropped when

he saw the car park. "We agreed to go there not really thinking it was right but when you go in and see the quality of the work, it's a perfect fit for our

her eyes sold for £56,700. Earlier this month a stencil of a sandwich-board

surprised when I drove in. The Swiss embassy obviously has many layers.

This seems to be a particularly important and solid one and should be a

with the next generation of people and artists who will largely shape and

determine the future".

results and decided to keep the graffiti.

and prices of his works rocket.

project."

source of inspiration every time you drive in or out."

Keanu Reeves have been reported as buyers.

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