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June 12th, 2011, Montréal, Québec.

Statement of support for Jaggi Singh

Members of Artivistic express their full support for Jaggi's course of action during the G20 protests, the political motivation underpinning his deeds, as well as the thinking and doings of every dissenter we had the pleasure of rubbing shoulders with over that rainy weekend of June 2010.

Founded in 2004, Artivistic is an affinity group that aims to "promote transdisciplinary and intercultural dialogue on activist art beyond critique, to create and facilitate a network of diverse peoples, and to inspire, proliferate, activate." We have garnered support from institutions as well as grassroots organizations. Our projects bring together a remarkable array of local and international artists, academics, and activists.

Members of Artivistic have worked with Jaggi on a number of occasions, such as public discussions and awareness raising activities. Artivistic considers Jaggi to be an important contributor to the community. But more than that, we know him to be a thoughtful and good humoured person.

It is clear to us that, when people who are marginalized see fences go down, a great service to humanity and common sense has been made. We agree with anyone who implies that fences, or any technique that attempt to make sheep of us, ought to be taken down by as interesting a set of means as the situation demands. We also agree with any statement, however uttered, or refusal to cooperate, however coy, that has as it's measure of success in being materialised the sheepishness of those who are in a position to most easily exercise influence over others. The most privileged institutions of our society and their managers ought to be confronted face to face.

On both a professional and personal level, as academics, artists, activists, and community members, we would like to reiterate his importance to us as an active and productive member of society and as a friend.

We sincerely hope that those entitled to do so will consider Jaggi for who he is and accordingly absolve him of all legal and moral culpability, as well as apologize to him and all those who participate in endeavours to emancipate themselves.

Sincerely,

The Artivistic Collective
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