is also a poet, visual artist, and city-dweller, based in the United States for two decades. He devotes much of his energy to developing a vision of a genuine Western Buddhism that is free from the cultural hang-ups that distract us from the Buddha's essential message of wakefulness.

Born in 1965 in northeast India, Rinpoche was trained in the meditative and intellectual disciplines of Indian and Tibetan Buddhism under the guidance of many of the greatest masters from Tibet's pre-exile generation. Among the many organizational roles he currently holds, he is the founder and principal teacher of Nalandabodhi, an international network of Buddhist practice centers. You can connect with Rinpoche on Twitter (@ ponlop) and become a fan on Facebook. For more information, go to www.rebelbuddha.com.

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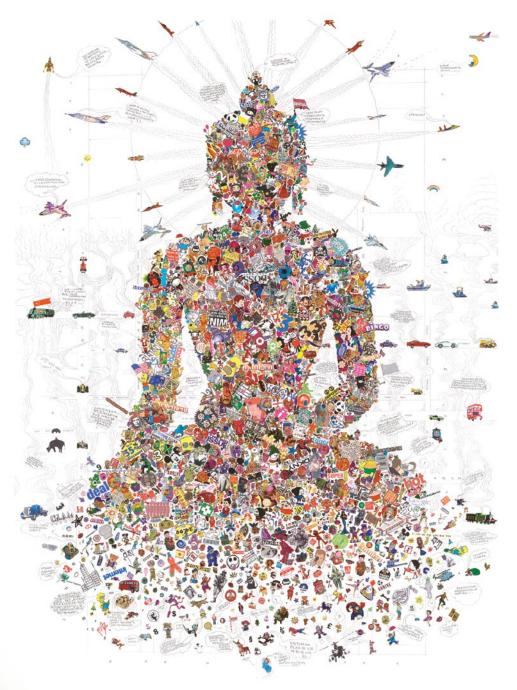
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