

Re: Deep Impact Kicks Off Fourth of July with Deep Space Fireworks

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.space.policy/2005-07/msg00429.html>

- *From:* spinoza1111@xxxxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* 12 Jul 2005 01:05:43 -0700
-

Eric Chomko wrote:

> spinoza1111@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

>

>

> : Eric Chomko wrote:

> : > spinoza1111@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

> [...]

> : > : > : The impact was of larger scale and I find it hard to believe that a

> : > : > : noninvasive method could not get equal data.

> : > : >

> : > : > Okay, how?

> : >

> : > : Come on. Astronomy has long known about such methods including infrared

> : > : spectroscopy.

> : >

> : > Then why do geologists still smash open rocks to see what's inside to this

> : > day?

>

> : Of course, they do so, almost always without harming anything, to get

> : information, and of course, there's nothing wrong with this, because we

> : KNOW the effects. We stopped killing large animals for sport when the

> : denuding of the American West proved to be an aesthetic and physical

> : disaster for people. Whereas smashing rocks is for the most part known

> : not to cause harm.

>

> : But no responsible geologist, any more, will smash apart even a small

> : mountain. Mt. Rushmore would not be carved today, and this is a Good

> : Thing.

>

> : Sure, Michelangelo was improving upon a block of Carrera marble, ripped

> : out of the earth by stonemasons. But you can't ethically "scale up" to

> : give a new Michelango license to destroy or damage a unique object

> : which has been unchanged since the dawn of the solar system for purely

> : artistic or scientific reasons, for the same reason you would not allow

> : him to carve a statue from an entire mountain.

>

Re: Deep Impact Kicks Off Fourth of July with Deep Space Fireworks

- > What is so wrong with carving a mountain like Mt. Rushmore? I can
- > understand why we leave things in the national parks alone (i.e. no I
- > don't think someone should carve something in Half Dome in Yosemite or
- > Zoraster Temple in the Grand Canyon, but a sculpture on some foothills,
- > what's wrong with that?

It disfigures the view. Christo's installations are temporary and thus to me the only just form of environmental art.

Furthermore, wtf is Teddy Roosevelt doing on Mt. Rushmore? Guy authorized butchery in the Phillipines and Nicaragua.

It's like that old ceremony in the west, "let da fire fall", where to enhance the view, some clueless cowboys would