



Moods, attitudes, and erections [slide]
by John Garland Hyden

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Fine Arts
Montana State University
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Abstract:

My goals as an artist have always been self discovery and personal expression. Accordingly, my compositions are intensely introspective and autobiographical. During the thesis experience, I have continued to pursue these goals with an even more rigorous self scrutiny. I have discovered that while my work is very personal and sometimes esoteric, I have many experiences to share with others through my vision.

My art is the manifestation of a unique, personal, obsessive vision and is the embodiment of intense emotion. Committed to my own vision and freedom, I have a fierce need for personal expression. My creative process is initiated by automatic drawing, however, the intensely personal nature of my work soon transforms these spontaneous images into a personal story or narrative. These narratives make autobiographical references and visualize personal experiences, dreams, and emotional responses. I utilize random juxtapositions to create enigmatic compositions containing violence, sexual allusions, and psychic crises.

In my daily life, I expose only that part of myself that I want others to see, repressing my more ambitious, erotic, and aggressive desires. However, the id rebels against the censorship of the superego in my art allowing full expression of my fantasies. There are several predominant aspects of my true character which reveal themselves in my work. First, I visualize myself as a victim-hero in a dangerous and senseless world gone out of control. I have no power over the world and can only live with personal virtue and be self reliant. Consequently, I often deal with the darker side of the psyche, my own as well as that of others. Secondly, I have many erotic thoughts which exist in the realms of both fantasy and reality. My thoughts range from fears of impotence, castration, embarrassment, and rejection to the pride of extreme prowess and virility. A third major aspect of my work concerns pain and death.

I suffer from chronic kidney stone attacks and must regularly endure excruciating pain. This pain forces me to realize not only how much I love my life, but also what torture and misery it oftentimes holds.

My creative efforts are the visualization of transformed memories of personal experiences. Because of the intensely personal nature of my vision, my art will always be uniquely my own. My work requires no approval or audience, I make it strictly to satisfy my own needs of self discovery and personal expression. However, because of the primal, gut level of the origins of my work, it has universal significance and import. Viewers are able to relate their own fears, desires, and psychic struggles to those expressed in my drawings. Operating at a high level of feeling and often unbearable intensity, I will always have a special gift to share with others through my art.

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by

John Garland Hyden

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree

of

Master of Fine Arts

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Bozeman, Montana

August 1988

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APPROVAL

of a thesis submitted by

John Garland Hyden

This thesis has been read by each member of the thesis committee and has been found to be satisfactory regarding content, English usage, format, citations, bibliographic style, and consistency, and is ready for submission to the College of Graduate Studies.

Aug 12, 1988
Date

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Chairperson, Graduate Committee

Approved for the Major Department

8-12-88
Date

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Head, Major Department

Approved for the College of Graduate Studies

9/8/88
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Signature

John Hyden

Date

August 12, 1988

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

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My creative efforts are the visualization of transformed memories of personal experiences. Because of the intensely personal nature of my vision, my art will always be uniquely my own. My work requires no approval or audience, I make it strictly to satisfy my own needs of self discovery and personal expression. However, because of the primal, gut level of the origins of my work, it has universal significance and import. Viewers are able to relate their own fears, desires, and psychic struggles to those expressed in my drawings. Operating at a high level of feeling and often unbearable intensity, I will always have a special gift to share with others through my art.

LIST OF SLIDES

1. Moods, Attitudes, and Erections
12"x9"
Pen and Ink
2. Please Hold Me
5"x7"
Pen and Ink
3. Untitled
5"x7"
Pen and Ink
4. Church of Reason
12"x9"
Pen and Ink
5. Me and Kat
12"x9"
Pen and Ink
6. Strange Crew
12"x9"
Pen and Ink
7. Three Dicked Spotted Man
12"x9"
Pen and Ink
8. Untitled
7"x10"
Pen and Ink
9. You Ain't Nothing but a Kitty in the Sky
38"x50"
Pencil, Collage
10. Honor, Power, and the Love of Women
52"x65"
Pencil
11. The Politics of Transfiguration
52"x53"
Pencil
12. Prophet of Extremity
52"x60"
Pencil

LIST OF SLIDES Continued

13. Installation view, Thesis Exhibition
Fine Arts Gallery, Haynes Hall
14. Installation view, Thesis Exhibition
Fine Arts Gallery, Haynes Hall
15. Installation view, Thesis Exhibition
Fine Arts Gallery, Haynes Hall

TOP ↑ ①

14 JUN 88
John Hyden
1988

Moods, Attitudes,
and Erections
Pen and Ink

12"x9"

TOP ↑ ②

John Hyden
1988

7"x5"

Please Hold Me
Pen and Ink
MAY 88

TOP ↑ ③

John Hyden
1988

7"x5"

Untitled
Pen and Ink
MAY 88

TOP ↑ ④

27 MAY 88
John Hyden
1988

Church of Reason
Pen and Ink

12"x9"

TOP ↑ ⑤

17 MAY 88
John Hyden
1988

Me and Kat
Pen and Ink

12"x9"

TOP ↑ ⑥

18 MAY 88
John Hyden
1988

Strange Crew
Pen and Ink

12"x9"

TOP ↑ ⑦

31 MAY 88
John Hyden
1988

Three Dicked
Spotted Man
Pen and Ink

12"x9"

TOP ↑ ⑧

John Hyden
1988

7"x10"

Untitled
Pen and Ink
MAY 88

TOP ↑ ⑨

John Hyden
1988

5"x8"

You Aint Nothing but
a Kitty in the Sky
Pencil, Collage
MAY 88

TOP ↑ ⑩

John Hyden
1988

59"x25"

Honor, Power, and
the Love of Women
Pencil
MAY 88

TOP ↑ ⑪

John Hyden
1988

52"x53"

The Politics of
Transfiguration
Pencil
88 JUN

TOP ↑ ⑫

John Hyden
1988

59"x25"

Prophet of Extremity
Pencil
88 JUL

TOP ↑ ⑬

John Hyden
1988

Installation
View

TOP ↑ ⑭

John Hyden
1988

Installation
View

TOP ↑ ⑮

John Hyden
1988

Installation
View

MOSES, ATTITUDES AND ERECTIONS



BY

JOHN HYDEN





























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