Heads or tails
by John William Pollock

A thesis submitted to the Graduate Faculty in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
MASTER OF APPLIED ART
Montana State University
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Abstract:
The prints of this thesis presentation reflect and were influenced by the recent birth of a son to the artist
and his wife* In these works self-portraits and portraits of the artist’s son are employed, but these are
used only as actors of a play. The real plot of these works comes from a theory by John Locke, who
was an English philosopher and educator. This theory he called "Tabula Rasa". The theory in essence
states that "the mind of an infant is a blank state and all of his actions and ideas come from
experiences**" Previous to the works of this thesis presentation, the artist completed a series of works
involving vending machines* These works were concerned with making a selection of an experience at
the cost of one nickel. The thesis prints are thus related to these works in that the actual experiences of
the thesis prints are represented by nickels.
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Signature

Date August 7, 1973
HEADS OR TAILS

by

John William Pollock

A thesis submitted to the Graduate Faculty in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF APPLIED ART

Approved:

[Signatures]

Director, School of Art

Chairman, Examining Committee

Graduate Dean

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Bozeman, Montana

August, 1973
John William Pollock was born of Andrew Jess Pollock and Elsie May Brickman Pollock on December 10, 1946 in the town of Red Lodge, Montana. His education came, however, primarily in Billings, Montana, and he graduated from Billings West High School in June of 1965. From the years 1965 through 1969 he attended Eastern Montana College from where he graduated in June of 1969 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education. After spending two years in the Armed Forces, he began attending Montana State University during the fall of 1971.
The prints of this thesis presentation reflect and were influenced by the recent birth of a son to the artist and his wife. In these works self-portraits and portraits of the artist's son are employed, but these are used only as actors of a play. The real plot of these works comes from a theory by John Locke, who was an English philosopher and educator. This theory he called "Tabula Rasa". The theory in essence states that "the mind of an infant is a blank state and all of his actions and ideas come from experiences."

Previous to the works of this thesis presentation, the artist completed a series of works involving vending machines. These works were concerned with making a selection of an experience at the cost of one nickel. The thesis prints are thus related to these works in that the actual experiences of the thesis prints are represented by nickels.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLES OF WORKS</th>
<th>SIZES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. What Proud Papa Needs Is a Good Nickel Cigar</td>
<td>19&quot;-26&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Proud Papa Has No More Nickels</td>
<td>20&quot;-26&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Proud Papa Searches Out Stray and Missing Nickels</td>
<td>20&quot;-26&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Proud Papa Programs an Experience of &quot;Tabula Rasa&quot;</td>
<td>20&quot;-26&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Son of Proud Papa Reacts to &quot;Tabula Rasa&quot;</td>
<td>20&quot;-26&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Son of Proud Papa Gets a Taste of His First Nickel</td>
<td>20&quot;-26&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Admiration of The Nickel Experience Collection</td>
<td>20&quot;-26&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Proud Papa Recalls His Early Experiences</td>
<td>20&quot;-26&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Nickel Experience Collection</td>
<td>20&quot;-26&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Nickel Experience Dispenser</td>
<td>10&quot;-10&quot;-13&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fifteen minutes in U.S.A.

John Pollock
Dec 72

Ceramic 2611 High

Patent Pending

John Pollock
Nov 1972
PHYSICAL FEATURES
MACHINE
TYPE 2

HIS
HERS

EARS
HANDS
NOSE
EYES
HAIR
FEET

One in a series. 1978. 46 x 61 cm.
GUARANTEED LOOK-ALIKE MACHINE

THANK YOU