

Artist Statement: 27th Annual Exhibition of Artists in Michigan Prisons

Artist Name: A Woolworth

our world is full of clowns. Well, prison is full of clowns. Recently, I've been moved to a minimum security facility. there are many self-help groups offered here. I've joined one and it seems to be learning me something (GASP!). ~ last week the exercise was to fold a paper in two; on the outside draw a representation of your outerself and on the inside the fold draw who you are inside. I drew a clown on the outer and a 'lil monkey sitting in the corner on the interior. After making the drawings we were prompted to get up and explain what is behind our symbols; kind of share our different selves with the rest of the group.

would you believe that every single person in our group had a similar version of the person I drew. Not the clown exactly ~ but all twenty of us had some sort of ^{macho man} mask or facade covering an unsure insecure inner self. better yet ~ we all thought we were alone with these feelings. the strangest part of this story is that we have overcome our aversion to talking about our feelings. Grown men ~~don't~~ talk about their feelings. geeze. At least I'm not alone. we all feel inadequate.

Please edit your Artist Statement to fit the space provided.

Sometimes. —