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## Sponsor This Prison Artist: Ronald D. Cole

Subject: Art Review

by Nate A. Lindell, 1 Feb. 2015

Here in prison, you'll only find broken, worthless people who will, at best, drain you of any sympathy you have quicker than a vampire'd exsanguinate an anemic person.

That's the popular myth, supported by shows like Lockup and Lockdown. That or the myth that we're irrepressible monsters that simply need to be exterminated.

Thankfully there are guys like Ronald D. Cole #17304-045 who contribute to the shattering of both myths. Check out his accompanying art & tell me why he's not admired by more people than myself & a few other prisoners!

Mr. Cole is so enamored with abstraction that I could not interview him - his answers consisted of "Hoib" and "Bleeb." So let me simply describe him & tell you what I know.

He looks like the squarest, most law abiding person I've ever met, about 5'6", sandy blond hair, pink complexion, and weighs about 180 lbs (not fat, but stout). He looked so lame I took an immediate liking to him, in part because he was the perfect mule for toting food & bottles of coffee out of the chow hall while I (much more eye-catching) acted as the "distractor" to searching guards looking for food smugglers.

We both love coffee & must have looked ridiculous to staff, amped up on it, playing bocci ball (my version where you gotta bounce the balls off at least 3 walls for it to count & sometimes hit bystanders "on accident") while I yelled such profanities that I'd get Cole, a devout Mormon, to calmly roll his ball, then exclaim, "Fuck you!"

Usually he'd win.

Anyway, back to the art. It's f-ing cool, huh?

Cole is an extreme introvert, to his own dismay. He admired me for being more personable, but it's probably just the Prozac that makes me so.

He's studied art more thoroughly than I've studied

law or psychology, and could teach a college class on the history/development of abstract art.

Years ago he got in a car wreck that mushed in much of the right side of his skull, putting him in a coma that, when he came to, left his brain unable to properly work his body. But he recovered, although, no doubt, with some brain damage, which might explain his introversion + love of abstract art.

Kandinsky is his current favorite artist.

I practically bullied Cole into putting his art on display on some prison pen-pal/social sites, but, now that I'm not out there to make him follow through, he may have gave up on that. He's not confident in his social skills, thinks he's boring.

As a devout a Mormon as he is, he'd very likely sell his soul for a cheese Danish + it was troubling to me to see him rack up 100\$ in debts for Nutty Bars + other snack items. But, it's better than guys who rack up 100s of dollars in debts for dope.

Other than coffee, both Cole + I were/are stone sober, drug/alcohol free.

I hope you enjoy his art, tell others about it, and drop Cole a note letting him know what you think about it. You can easily do so using Jmail.cc, without even leaving your computer.

Get the word out!

Thanks + Enjoy,  
Nate A. Lindel

P.S. Anyone planning on writing to Mr. Cole, his address is:

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