

Finding the Authentic Self



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The pursuit of my authentic self has been a prolonged one for me. I'm a late bloomer in the art world, and have had little formal training beyond a few drawing and clay throwing classes. I never considered myself a 'real artist', although I'd always loved making things with my hands. It was a slow process for me to realize that many of the things I'd been creating in clay, although competent, were attempts to appeal to what I thought other people would want; I wasn't trusting myself and my own ideas.

I clearly recall that one day I decided to 'waste' one of my pieces and draw and color and doodle as I liked with no regard for what anyone else might think. This opened up an infinite range of possibilities and was a revelation to me. I'm now trying to articulate in my artwork feelings that are honest and self-expressive.

My own satisfaction with the process of working, and the ability to be completely immersed in what I'm doing, is something I've never experienced before, and I'm grateful that I've had the opportunity to make this discovery. It's still very much of a struggle for me to trust in my instinctual creations, but I'm certain that I will never let go of authentically expressing my own sensibilities.

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