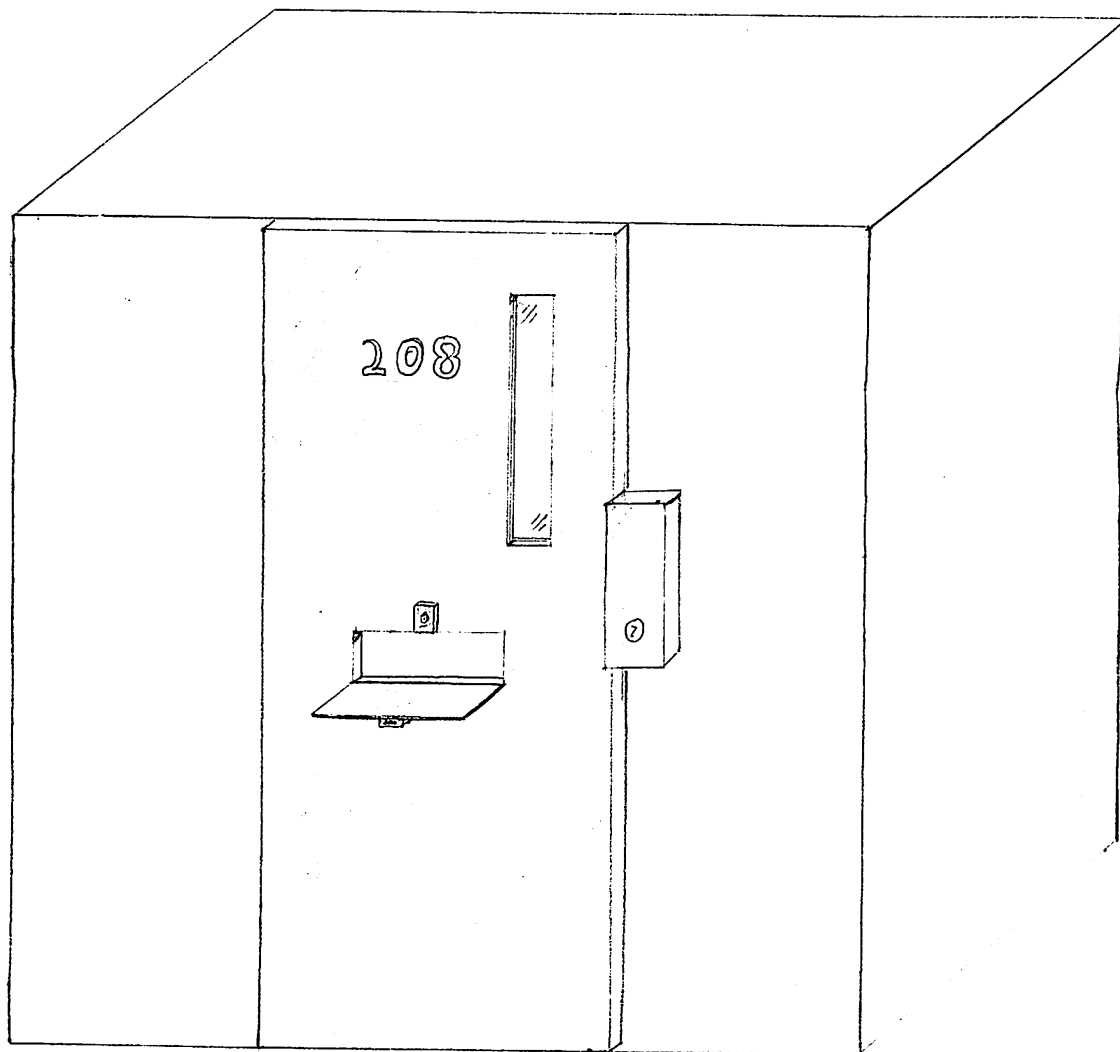


PRISON OUTSIDE THE BOX

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Harold W. Nichols



MATERIALS: CANVAS ART BOARDS (QUANTITY DEPENDS ON SIZE)

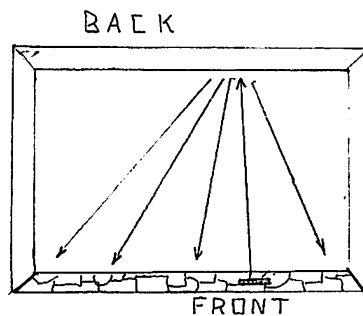
SIZE: ?

OUTER SURFACE: PAINTED TO MATCH CELL IN POD.

INSIDE: REAR WALL - MIRROR

FRONT WALL - COLLAGE OF FAMILY/FRIENDS PHOTOS.

OBJECTIVE: CONTINUING THE INSIDE/OUT THEME, WHEN THE VIEWER LOOKS THROUGH THE PIE FLAP THEY FIRST SEE THEMSELVES THEN THEY SEE REFLECTED IN THE MIRROR ALL THE PHOTOS DEMONSTRATING THAT PRISON IS NOT JUST ABOUT US BEING LOCKED IN BUT IT IS ALSO ABOUT OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS BEING LOCKED OUT OF OUR LIVES.



INSIDER ARTIST: HAROLD W. NICHOLS

AGE: 51

NUMBER OF YEARS IN PRISON: 24

LENGTH OF SENTENCE: 30 SECONDS

TITLE OF WORK: PRISON OUTSIDE THE BOX

PRISON IS NOT MADE OF IRON AND STONE. THESE WALLS AND FENCES ARE MERELY A PLACE TO HOLD THE IMPRISONED. THE REALITY OF PRISON IS THAT YOU ARE LOCKED ON THE "INSIDE", AWAY FROM THE LIVES OF YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND THEY ARE LOCKED ON THE "OUTSIDE" OF YOUR LIFE AS WELL.

THE BOX BEFORE YOU IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRISON CELL.

STAND BACK A FEW INCHES AND LOOK INTO THE "PIE FLAP" ON THE DOOR, THEN STEP CLOSER. AS YOU APPROACH YOU WILL FIRST SEE YOURSELF ON THE "INSIDE" BUT AS YOU GET NEARER, YOU WILL BECOME AWARE OF OTHERS, THE "OUTSIDERS", FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO ARE IN THERE WITH YOU. THEN YOU WILL REALIZE THAT THEY ARE ONLY A REFLECTION.

FOR ME, THE WORST PART OF PRISON IS NOT THE "BOX" OR THE RULES OR THE FENCES OR EVEN THE APPOINTED HOUR. THE WORST PART OF PRISON IS NOT BEING THERE WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS WHEN THEY NEED ME TO BE. WHEN I HEAR OF SOMEONE HAVING A ROUGH TIME, I OFTEN THINK "IF I COULD JUST BE OUT THERE, I COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE". IT IS THEN THAT PRISON, THE WALLS AND FENCES, BECOME PHYSICAL, CORPOREAL OBSTACLES IMPRISONING ME.