

7-29-1995

# [Jay Clifford Biography]

Jay

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My Name is Jay Clifford and I live in Worcester, Massachusetts where I was born in 1954. I have attended Connecticut College, Clark University, Worcester Art Museum School and the Boston Fine Arts Museum School but have no degrees. I am a direct care worker at a group home and school for emotionally disturbed children where I have been employed for the last seven years. I am a member of the Connecticut Academy of Fine Art, The Copley Society, Arts Worcester and The Provincetown Art Association. In 1995 I have been in national exhibitions at Pleiades Gallery, N.Y., juried by Charlotta Kotik, curator of painting and sculpture at the Brooklyn Museum; the Springfield Art Museum, Springfield, Ma. juried by Trevor Fairbrother, curator of contemporary art at the Boston Fine Arts Museum; and a solo exhibition entitled "Portraits from the edge" at the Bromfield Gallery in Boston.

I paint expressionistic portraits with acrylic paint on canvas. I am attracted to the emotional content of faces, especially so called people who live on the edge: punk rockers, psychiatric patients and bizarre individuals. I have been influenced by Jean Dubuffet, Pablo Picasso, Jackson Pollack, Andy Warhol, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Francis Bacon, William de Kooning and the psychologist Alice Miller.

"In the deep dark night of the soul, it's always 3 a.m." F. Scott Fitzgerald.