

A Beautiful, Powerful Collage - Transcription

DON

In the variety of the scope, I should say in the variety of the content, we had not just first person accounts of psychiatric torture and abuses. We had poems, we had journal entries, and illustrations. It was a beautiful, powerful collage but all showing resistance from different points. It's like—I see this work as a collage with many different contributors showing “this is what happened to me, and this is what I want to say, and this is why it's important.” A collage: in the visual sense it's a collage.

BONNIE

Very few people did we say no to. The issue was if someone sent something we wanted to find some way for their voice to be heard.

DON

And it was very clear this was going to be a collective—a collective project. It wasn't an ego-tripping self-serving thing, it was for all of us who had gone through the fires of the psychiatric system.

BONNIE

We were not trying to write a history of the movement in Canada, and we were not choosing people to interview we actually published almost everything that came to us. So it was very different—we were interested in getting voices out there. Voices of people whether they were in the movement, whether they couldn't imagine ever being in a movement, and some of these people were not in the movement, demonstrably not in the movement.