Prison hasn't extinguished fiery convictions



Many of Mondo's sculptures and paintings have been shown throughout the state.

Aunt Ruthie by Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa

the shutters on the window clatter the hail dash against the pane a spider do a funky butt dance on the sill while a cockeyed sparrow duck his head under one wing wishing the hail was rain

the old sofa dip like a swayback horse years done wore away the flowers roses made out of thread rubbed down to the cotton stuffing and grease spots mark the places where many a folks laid their heads

an old face squint toward the window a gnarled finger give the spider a tap send the spider trapezing cross the glass it fall when the silk rope snap

photos of loved ones on the coffee table entombed beneath the spotless glass aunt ruthie can't recall the names too good so many years gone past

the teapot whistle in an otherwise silent place aunt ruthie's bones to tired to creak things aunt ruthie'd like to say her mouth is too tired to speak

the door bell the telephone neither rings the mailbox stands empty outside its door dropped open like a sagging lip inside aunt ruthie shifts her aching body to ease the pain in her hip

night falls the hail subsides aunt ruthie drops her face her lashes tangle in the dark to hurry sleep along as a mouse crouch down in front of the stove to listen to the teapot song.

Mondo

Continued from Page 3

"What we do is a reflection of our beliefs. We can't keep that from

Artists waste their time when they restrict themselves to subjects such as mud-covered leaves and little girls' tennis shoes, he says.

"There is value in talking about snow and wagon wheels and dust all over everything. There are things we need poets to interpret for us," he says. "But I can't conceive of being a poet or a painter or another kind of writer and to actually ignore real things, real significant things that are hap-

pening to people.

"It's rare to find in poetry coming out of Nebraska something about what is happening in Central America or what is happening with the homeless in this country or that addresses ra-

Artists have an important respon-sibility, Mondo says, because a poem or a painting can touch people in a way nothing else can.

'Art is something that penetrates

you're betraying people by not mak-ing some use of that power."

Mondo thinks someone who is both political and spiritual is all the better for the mix.

A person who is political but doesn't have the artist's vision can only go so far and then a wall grows up around the person," he says. "The brain can only take you so far or so high, but the spirit can take you other places.

Art and radical politics are actually one and the same, he says.

'Revolution automatically involves two things, destruction and construction. It seems to me that an artist is involved in exactly the same process.

Dick Herman, editorial page edi-tor of the Lincoln Journal, says Mondo gives readers the viewpoint of the "articulate, angry black American."

by Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa some africans in america born know african selves not

collar leash theyselves

yes to white america hard and tight o can break away like tiny dog not break away from big master with monkey grip these more pets than pets master confident to know he let leash go these ones move not

no but stand with timid eyes and feet stuck to concrete good move not 'til master say they should second guess him sometime awhile into a person's spirit and allows the person to feel," he says. "So if you have this kind of power ... art power ... then it seems to me that in a way, and feet shuffle fast to rush and feet shuffle fast to rush to the white mayor they trust to the white mayor they trust give them keys to the city unlocking nothing at all for us.

> "I think he provides a perspective that our readers wouldn't get any-where else, couldn't get anywhere else," Herman says.

Mondo doesn't consider himself an angry person, though. He says anger is like an acid that eats its container as well as its target.

"I'm just not that type of person." around you."

with one-liners. His piercing dark eyes

sparkle when he laughs.
"I know peace," he says. "I am a happy person in spite of this place."

State Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha has known Mondo for about 20 years. He says Mondo sees the world differently than most.

He is a visionary in the sense of being able to look beyond the present and see the big picture," Chambers

Mondo still wants his freedom, but on his terms. He says he seeks release on the basis of his innocence. As a result, he has neither tried to have his life sentence commuted nor sought a

He is convinced he won't spend the rest of his life in prison but wonders how he will fit into a world so different from the one he left.

"I feel like a f----- dinosaur sometimes," he says.

In a way, he is a relic. Other radicals from the 1960s and early 1970s went on to raise families and work full-time jobs. Along the way, many of them lost, or at least buried, their convictions.

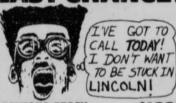
"There was a sense that we really could overcome," he says. "Today it sounds so phony.

Yet he hasn't lost hope that others will again find the fervor and passion that possessed them.

Mondo says he feels a sense of urgency but doesn't allow this emotion to consume him. He could be compared to a hurricane.

Inside the gyre lies an immense

"When you're doing things you believe in and you're true to yourself, there's a sense of peace -- regardless of how much turmoil is going on



DAYTONA BEACH SOUTH PADRE ISLAND

FORT LAUDERDALE 10m \$127 HILTON HEAD ISLAND

CORPUS CHRISTI / **MUSTANG ISLAND**

DON'T WAIT 'TIL IT'S TOO LATE 1-800-321-5911



"om \$129

... \$101

mm \$132

THIS IS GREAT

20 Positions

Available Immediately

We are looking for students with a sense of style and an energetic approach towards the opportunity of contacting Fortune 500 clients nationwide customer base.

\$5.50 /hr. Guaranteed

We Offer:

- · Flexible, self-determined hours
- · Paid training
- Great Location (two blocks from campus)
- Experience in the communications

For a personal interview contact Mr. Adams Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. at 476-7625

Get Your Sweetheart's Gift at

Wagey Drug



*Gifts

*Jewelry

*Cards

*Brach's and Russell Stovers Candy

*Miniature Colognes

*Free Giftwrapping

*Balloon Bouquets

*Helium Balloons 79¢-\$1.99

27th and Vine 17th and Washington 55th and South

