

# THE PARTICIPATORY AGE

## from a Talk/Show at Pratt, December 5, 1996

I wanted to go to Pratt or Antioch University, but right out of high school, I didn't have enough self-direction. I chose Rollins, a fabulous choice, great teachers, a grand format, small roundtable discussions. Dr. Wendell Stone and Ms. Lila Koontz gave me lasting direction and ideas. It's a miracle years later I received my MA from Antioch University Yellow Springs. And another miracle, I was invited by Don Ritter to speak at Pratt. Moral: write down your aspirations.

Okay, there, in that Pratt classroom, everyone was on a Mac and all my work looked like it did at home. No crazy surprises. *I called these lectures Talk/Shows, an important category distinction.*

Finding this lecture, I'm impressed. I deserve a prize. Smiles. What I'm not impressed by is the loss of sound files and images, which changed this piece from a straight-ahead lecture to a web-specific piece with observations that reveal a human being beneath this talk/show. The humor and comments about place are gone. Images of me as a sort of southern Dolly Parton are gone. The felt absence of those files makes me realize the worth of what we were doing – how powerful we could make the experience for others. All the enlivening aspects – sounds, animations, images – made it possible to show layers of meaning, of character, of lived experience. This is it, folks.

In this colorful lecture printout I'd like to remove the apostrophes in 60s and 70s. Sigh. No html editor. I get warnings when I try to do this on Safari Develop > Page Source or Web Inspector.

I have only one sound file left from this experience and it's an au file. You can, at least, hear where I was going with this talk/show. And I have one image from the final. Here are a few of the missing files. I don't know if any of these are in the Wayback machine.

[sounds\\_pratt1.aif](#)

[sounds\\_pratt2.aif](#)

[sounds\\_pratt3.aif](#)

[sounds\\_pratt4.aif](#)

[sounds\\_pratt5.aif](#)

smile.jpg  
suited.jpg  
studious.jpg  
toolong.jpg  
dolly2.jpg

