



Quality Learning That
Transforms and Enriches
People's Lives

January 25, 1999

To Whom it Concerns,

I am writing this letter to support the efforts of Steve Vanoni and others to preserve the works of Duke Cahill.

Like many Sacramentans, I was aware of Mr. Cahill's enigmatic complex for years, until I landed an interview with him in 1990 and got a closer look from the inside. His collection personal artworks, from the Bosch-like statuary to the welded wheel pieces and homemade signs, is quite impressive when viewed in total.

And Mr. Cahill himself fits, almost classically, into our modern definitions of a folk artist; someone without formal art training, but with an impulsive need to create, and a general shyness about public recognition. Each semester here at American River College, when I lecture on folk art as a worldwide phenomenon, Mr. Cahill's works serve as my best local example.

As an Art History professor I feel that Mr. Cahill's works certainly have historical significance, and would like to encourage any support that can be offered in preserving them. They constitute a part of American culture we should not let slip away.

Sincerely,

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