



WORKS

aggressor, going overseas and bombing other people's homeland. They don't want to consider that.

JG: And what's so interesting about your collages is how you're actually using media outlets that are mouthpieces for a certain kind of mainstream narrative, taking their words, and then making them yours. You repeat this phrase in your collages: "in my own words." You would send them out to Bonnie, who would use them in lectures and as educational materials, bringing your words to a wider audience.

BK: I would make copies of them on good old copy machines. Sometimes I would take them and have them blown up to 2 × 3' on vinyl so they could be hung on a wall. Once we were speaking at a school in Connecticut, which has a school of architecture. I asked him if he could do one of a blueprint of Eastern State Penitentiary, which was built in 1829, next to a blueprint of the supermax Control Unit prison in Florence, Colorado, which was built in the '90s. It's the same blueprint. It's the same design, like the spokes of a wheel, and it's on purpose. There's no sense of where you are in the world. No sounds, No life.

JG: That correlation between Florence and Eastern State gets back to the origins of solitary. Solitary was initially a Quaker idea first introduced in prisons like Eastern State.

BK: It was seen as penitence. It was seen as self-reflection, but then became punitive. A coworker and I uncovered material that showed that when 19-century Apache leader Geronimo was removed from his tribe he was placed in solitary confinement in a fort in Florida. Captors have been playing with solitary for a very long time.

OL: That was political isolation. Not punitive, political. Trenton State Prison control unit is clean, it's moderate. You walk in and the silence is eerie, I mean you can feel the oppression. You can smell it. Just stand back and look at the cells, how its structured. It's real oppressive. My collages, I'd put them in a box, push them underneath the bed. The cells were painted white. That was by design. When I came home I started making collages in color, because of the effect that colorlessness has on the psyche.

