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On the Cover: Artist's Statement for Sin City Sucker Mask

Lisa Tucker

Bridgewater State University

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On the Cover

Artist's Statement for *Sin City Sucker Mask*

LISA TUCKER

Bridgewater State University

Lisa Tucker creates conceptual, mixed-media sculpture using found materials. She makes artwork that encourages people to think about the uncomfortable things about which we do not often talk. Her artwork uses visual/verbal puns that relate the concept of the work to the material used to create it.

In this project, Lisa Tucker is exploring the concepts of duality, escapism, and vice through research and a series of masks that depict different vices. Each mask represents a vice that is used as an escape from the reality of everyday life. The intention of Lisa's work is for the viewer to think of the uncomfortable truths and realities about the vices that her work portrays.

Artwork on the Cover of *The Graduate Review*,

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Sin City Sucker Mask

The *Sin City Sucker* mask is designed to be in the likeness of a Las Vegas showgirl's headdress. It is

very flowy and whimsical with feathers and glitter. The mask contains playing cards, lottery tickets, and poker chips. The playing cards in the plumes are all winning poker hands, except for the hand directly over the forehead. Similar to playing poker, not all hands are big winners, but they are motivation to keep playing. The final hand in the front, like all of the lottery tickets, is a losing hand.

The *Sin City Sucker* mask is constructed using chicken wire, dowels, and two visors that provide the base for the playing card hands, the lottery tickets, the poker chips, and the boa. The chicken wire is cut to create the backing for each plume and is sewn onto the front visor with a dowel, and then connected to the chicken wire to create stability. A second visor is then attached to the back of the visor and plumes to create additional stability. The cards and lottery tickets are attached to the front of the chicken wire using glue. Feather boas are attached to the back of each plume. Poker chips are strung together using jewelry jump rings. The completed poker chip veil is attached to the visor using hot glue. A feather boa on the visor completes the work.