The Today Chronicle

10 PENCE 10TH MARCH, 1953

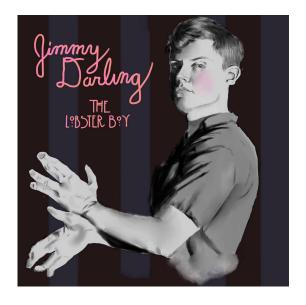
BOO, THE SAD STORY OF BEING A "FREAK"



Lilian Chamard

This new reporter have a bad opinion of our society, by writing article that contest the socials conventions, he have the ambition to change our society

Our new reporter Lilian Chamard will tell you the story of Jimmy Darling, a young man working in a freak show due to his ectrodactyly, a disease which has for consequences to deform and stick his fingers. This disease gives him the nickname of: "Lobster boy"



"THE DISEASE MAKES THE SHOW"

LC: Thanks to have accepted this interview, in first place can you introduce yourself in a few word?

JD: I'm born with the ectrodactyly disease, which means that some of my fingers are stick together or deformed. This unusual disease only allows me to do the freak in a freak show, a sort of unlucky people circus.

LC: What do you mean by "unlucky people circus" and "do the freak"?

"A FREAK SHOW IS ALL YOU HATE, EXPOSURE TO MOCKERY"

JD: those "show" are not common show. When you go see a freak show you go there to see people with strange disease or disabilities, the disease makes the show, and this little difference between you and the public (the disease) makes you a "freak", a "monster" to the eyes of the society.

LC: You have say that the profession of "freak", if we can call this a profession, was the only way to work for you, can you explain this?

JD: When to the eyes of the public you are a "monster" even if you demonstrate the same capabilities than normal people to do a work people will only see the freak. So the only solution you have is to do what people admire you for. Being a freak. My parents were freaks too for the same reason, I was already in the system. Ethel Darling, the "bearded lady", and Dell Toledo the "strongman". I started as a Freak in 1946 in Dayton and after, I meet Elsa and her freak show that I joined because it was the only freak show where we can live in descent conditions.

LC: Can you explain us more precisely what does it involve the job of "freak"?

JD: In a freak show the goal is to make something that expose you disease. My show is a shadow puppet show, with the powerful light for the shadow puppet, people clearly see my finger. Other example my mother, "the bearded lady" was a singer, in this case people clearly see her beard. A freak show is all you hate, exposure to mockery.

"WE. ARE. HUMAN."

LC: What can we do to eliminate those injustices?

JD: It's easy to say but just one thing, make evolve the society, for this, people have to understand that despite our disease we are completely human with our emotions, our intelligence and our dreams. People have to see us like they see their son, their neighbour, their friends, their family. We'll have succeeded when the freak show is no longer an option as a sufferer.

LC: Thank you for accepting this interview, maybe would you like to say something more?

JD: We. Are. Human

Sources: fandom.com, Wikipedia.org, Courses