Who is Art? a stream of consciousness montage – mitch foster

Have you seen him? I’ve been looking for him
People have been talking about him, wondering
Who? you say? I can’t spell his full name, everyone just calls him “Art”

Here’s what I know:

I guess he’s quite a character . . . hangs out on walls,
hides on people’s clothes,
sneaks around museums and public parks . . . some people see him, some don’t
shows up in bars, concert halls, and subways – hangs around for a while and is gone

They say he’s had quite an exciting past – traveled a lot –
all over the world like James Bond taking on multiple identities:
  He’s been Greek Art, Roman Art, Gothic Art, Byzantine Art
  he’s even been spotted as Feminist Art (I think it was Halloween time though)
– you never know where he’ll be next

I guess all this gave Art some identity problems – I mean I think Art got confused about who he was
Was he going to be Pop Art or Fine Art?
Liberal Art or Religious Art?
Language Art or Abstract Art?
Modern Art or Designer Art?
Visual Art or Musical Art?
Communication Art or Digital Art?

His cousin Garfunkel tried to send him to art therapy, but Art said, “seems redundant”

He eventually felt just plain Artificial.

So, I’m told, Art nestled down in a small room at the Subjective Hotel on the corner of Elusive Lane and Paradox Drive (you know the place?)
- - - tried to work it out for himself, find the truth, the “Art-ifacts” as it were

“Who am I? Who is Art?” he asked . . . staring at a velvet oil painting of Elvis . . .

No reply.


He checked the mini-bar to find: can after can of Tomato Soup.

Fed up he went down to the hotel bar, the “Fill in the _______” and played pool with some dogs. Art couldn’t help but express himself and his quest for identity. A clean cut Welsh Terrier told him about an
article he read about the “6 Steps to Self-Discovery” After a long discussion the Terrier relayed the 6 steps to Art . . .

“Through a series of responsive mind/body exercises, self-expressive and communicative moves, social interactions and reflective experiences, one creatively explores ever-deepening notions of purpose, form, idiom, structure, craft and surface to reach a point at which they are able to let go of any thoughts about survival, reproduction, and taxes . . . “

Both excited and tormented, Art ran out to get the art-icle. Then for 3 weeks Art used the 6 steps to explore his own sense of nature, truth, beauty, philosophy, science, religion . . . (and he watched a few old episodes of Barney Miller (from the 2nd season)).

It took time but he began to feel Artistic . . . almost Artful.

But without paid work, and no more Tomato Soup, he quickly became starving Art and ended up taking a low-paying, but fulfilling job decorating refrigerators.