

Artist Statement — 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of Artists in Michigan Prisons

Artist Name:

John Jerry Jancar Jr.

I am of Hebrew, Native American (NON REGISTERED) Ojibwe, and white decent. I follow the traditional spiritual teachings of the 3 - Fires (Ojibwe, Oddawa and the Potawatomi) people. I grew up a hunter, fishing, motorcycling and Hot Rodding and most of my art reflects all of the above. I have been incarcerated for 41 yrs. and paint to find peace within myself, peace with my memories of a life no more, to share my spiritual and cultural traditions that I hold dear, and thus to teach. I am migizi dodaem (Eagle Clan) and our clan was most often called upon as teachers.

My peace "Ogaa (Walleye)" is of one of the staple foods of the 3 - Fires people still today. I have also donated "Medicine Wheel" to the PCAP program to help raise money, but also in hopes of engaging sincere curiosity in someone. People spend less time trying to destroy what they understand. Hopefully Curious One, whomever you may be, you will take an Asema (tobacco) offering to a traditional native practitioner, or Pipe Carrier and ask them to teach you more about this painting. To do less would be insincere and rude. We are to always make an offering when asking help of someone.

I hope no one at the show shys from purchasing paintings or other works of art that need framing. You can do it yourself very inexpensively for unmounted flat work, or canvas boards through NASCO ARTS, 901 Janesville Ave. Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 1-800-558-9595 nascoeducation.com

For instance for "Ogaa" which is an 18 x 24" piece they have a Trendsetter Acrylic Frame, product no. 9726150 for \$25.35 each. For "medicine Wheel" they have a 16 x 20", product no. 9726149 for \$21.00. There are also other sizes available for most standard art sizes.

Thank you and enjoy your time at the show.

Sincerely,



(Nishkaadij Amik)  
ANGRY BEAVER