

Artist Statement: 27th Annual Exhibition of Artists in Michigan Prisons

Artist Name: DAVID GOODREAL (THE GENTLE GIANT)

THIS YEAR I RETURNED TO MY LOVE OF THE OUTDOORS AND WILDLIFE. "NUTS!!" IS A FEELING THAT ANYONE WHO HAS HUNTED HAS EXPERIENCED. WHEN YOU SEE THE DEER OF YOUR DREAMS, BOUNCING AWAY, ALL YOU CAN SAY IS NUTS!! "NUTS!!" IS ALSO A PIECE THAT DEPICTS MY TRIUMPH OVER THE COVID PANDEMIC. I ORIGINALLY STARTED THIS PIECE IN 2019 INTENDING TO SUBMIT IT IN THE 2020 EXHIBITION OR LATER. WHEN COVID HIT AND EVERYTHING SHUT DOWN, I BECAME VERY DISCOURAGED, BORDERING ON THE EDGE OF MAJOR DEPRESSION. I PUT THIS PIECE (ABOUT 35% COMPLETED) AWAY AND DID NOT TOUCH IT AGAIN UNTIL THE SUMMER OF 2022. COVID TRIED BUT COULD NOT CRUSH MY SPIRIT AND MY DESIRE TO CREATE !!

"THE ACROBAT" IS A SCENE I HAVE SEEN HUNDREDS OF TIMES. BEING IN MY BOAT, OUT ON THE WATER, AT SUNSET IS SUCH A PEACEFUL AND SERENE SETTING. THEN THE ACROBAT LEAPS OUT OF THE WATER TAKING CENTER STAGE IN GOD'S MASTERPIECE OF NATURE. HE TWISTS, TURNS, AND CONTORTS HIS BODY BEFORE GRACEFULLY SPLASHING DOWN. SUCH MOMENTS ARE PRICELESS !!

Please edit your Artist Statement to fit the space provided.