

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

Artist Name: Matthew Baatz #610593

Once you have been hurt, you learn what it is to hate. On the other hand,
if you hurt another, you become hated, in addition to shouldering a sense of
guilt. But it is because one understands such pain that generosity towards others
becomes second nature. A person matures, grows up, because you experience pain.
This is what it means to be human. But that monster known as hate will always
give birth to new pains. A battle against hatred, that's what we are. & each &
every one of us battles that hatred. & if one calls vengeance justice, such justice
will just breed further vengeance... & a vicious cycle of hatred will be set in motion.
Making vengeance one's bread of life does not resolve anything. Do not be so
obsessed by hatred that you escape into a world of solitude... or else you will
not be able to return.

Special thanks to Priyanka who wrote a response to me last year. Your
words really touched my heart. I'm really glad to hear my art helped you so much.

Please edit your Artist Statement to fit the space provided.