

Artist Name: Carsten

This is my 9th. year participating in the art show and this was also one of my roughest years. The access to art supplies is being obstructed more and more, but that is not the real reason it was rough. The climate of the daily discourse has seemingly bottomed out, people don't respect each other anymore and no one listens. I am not sure I am heard anymore or that my art is welcome or appreciated. In addition, society seems to be hurtling into an uncertain era in which A.I. is spending everything we know and even what we perceive as being real. Will art still be a creative process going forward or simply a few strokes of a key? Will I still have a voice when the algorithm decides that I am not worthy of disseminating? What is the future of art in this digital world? Do I even make a sound if no one sees my 1's and 0's?

This year was filled with anxiety, self-doubt, and a crippling lack of self-worth for me. I barely saw myself in my art this year, and it felt hard to truly express myself. I felt stuck and unable to scream out my message, I barely managed a whisper.