

**Artist Statement: 26th Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners**

Artist Name: Bantu

I am an Afrikan-center Pan Afrikan Revolutionary Nationalist struggling for justice from a life sentence following a wrongful conviction of a crime I am Innocent of. However, I believe justice must be struggled for on all fronts, including justice for women from the patriarchal violences of chauvinism, sexism, misogyny, and peripheral-marginalizing. Thus, my "When God was a Woman" painting represents my drumming utterance of solidarity as I utilize art as a space to plant the seeds, assisting the flowering creation of liberation zones, where Black Women are cherished worshipped, and extolled as Goddesses on Earth. This piece is dedicated to and in remembrance of our Afrikan Warrior Queen, Winnie Mandela, who said, "... there is no other species that understand oppression as Black women do." #BlackWomenMatter!

"When God Was A Woman!"

Please edit your Artist Statement to the space provided.