

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

Artist Name: Carsten

Each year my style and techniques seem to evolve, I find a new element to add or maybe a different way to express a thought. I just cannot stand still and do the same thing over and over again, I need progress. I like to challenge myself and try to realize things in my head. I worry though that my voice is getting lost in my pieces, or worse that I don't have anything to say, that all I do is glue colored paper onto a board. But this year I came to realize that all of my pieces, in one way or another, are self portraits, except for the birds. They are just birds. Everything I create is me, is an image I have of myself, is a thought I cannot say out loud, is a dream I dare not to dream, is a look at myself. And so yeah, I am not sure if I still have anything worth saying or hearing. But I still have a pair of scissors and some glue, I have a word or two left to say. I have come to realize that I use my art to say what I otherwise leave unspoken and buried, this is therapy for me. Therefore my art is selfish and self-centered, it is all about me.

Please edit your Artist Statement to fit the space provided.