



What your artist statement should say

- 1. Explain why you do what you do.** Begin with a discussion of why you make art. Make it as personal as possible and talk about your goals. What do you hope to achieve through your art?
- 2. Describe your decision-making techniques.** Tell the reader about your decision-making process. How do you select a theme? How do you choose what materials to use? What techniques do you use? Keep it simple and tell the truth.
- 3. Talk about your current work.** Provide some insight into your current work. How does it relate to your previous work? What life experiences informed it? What are you exploring, attempting or challenging through this work?
- 4. Keep it to the point.** Your artist statement is an introduction to your work, not an in-depth analysis of it. Your artist's statement should be one or two paragraphs and no longer than a page.
 - Your statement should answer the most commonly asked questions about your art, not overwhelm readers with irrelevant facts and minute details.
 - Brevity and efficiency of language are key. A good statement leaves the reader wanting more.
- 5. Use simple language.** An effective artist's statement reaches out and welcomes people to your art, no matter how little or how much they know about art to begin with; it never excludes. It should make your work more accessible. Write in simple, straightforward, everyday language.
 - Make "I" statements rather than "you" statements. Talk about what your art does for you, not what it's supposed to do for the viewers.

Sample Artist Statement

As an artist, I work hard to develop paintings that speak both to me and to others about the beauty that exists in the ruins of ancient societies. Part of my process before I begin painting is to read as much as I can about the specific set of ruins I am about to recreate on canvas. I do not merely want to capture the image with my brushes; rather, with careful, colourful strokes, I want to give that society life once more.

I try with every finished work to breathe life into a long forgotten culture so that its designs, ideas, innovations, and lifestyle are displayed on my canvas. The challenge, as with any recreated moment from the past, is to not caricature the moment and instead capture it in all its former glory. My artwork speaks, not only for me, but for people who were long ago silenced.