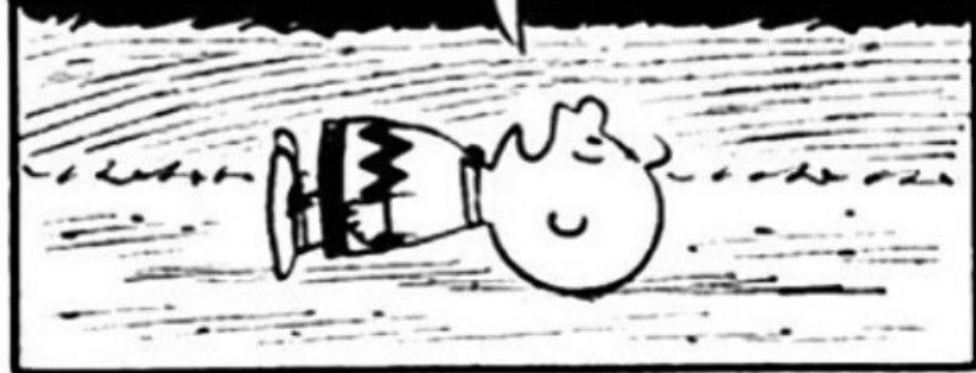


Writing your Artist's Statement

Kelly Six
Tech Talk June 6th 2023

WHY?
WHY?
WHY?
WHY?



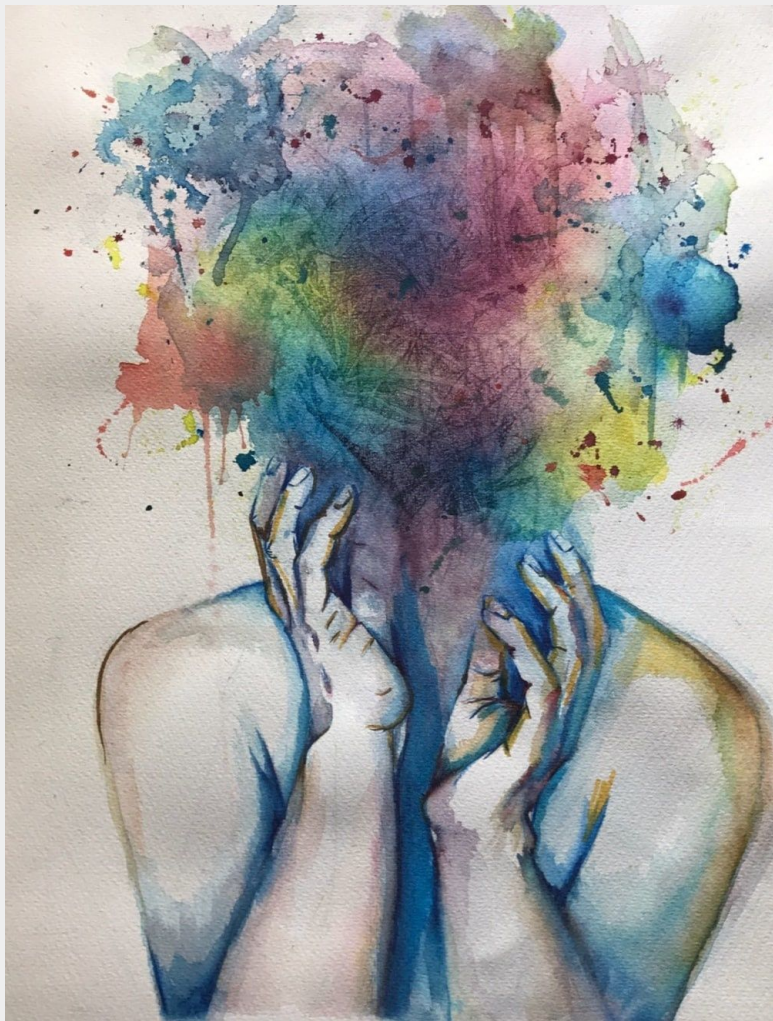
*Types of Artist's Statements You
Might Need*

Full-Page Statement: This statement you will use most often; it speaks generally about your work, the methods you may have used, the history of your work, etc. It may also include specific examples of your current work or project.

Short Statement: A shorter statement that includes the above in an abbreviated way, or is specific to the project at hand.

Short Project Statement: A very short statement about the specific project you are presenting.

Bio: Often a short description of your career as an artist and your major accomplishments.



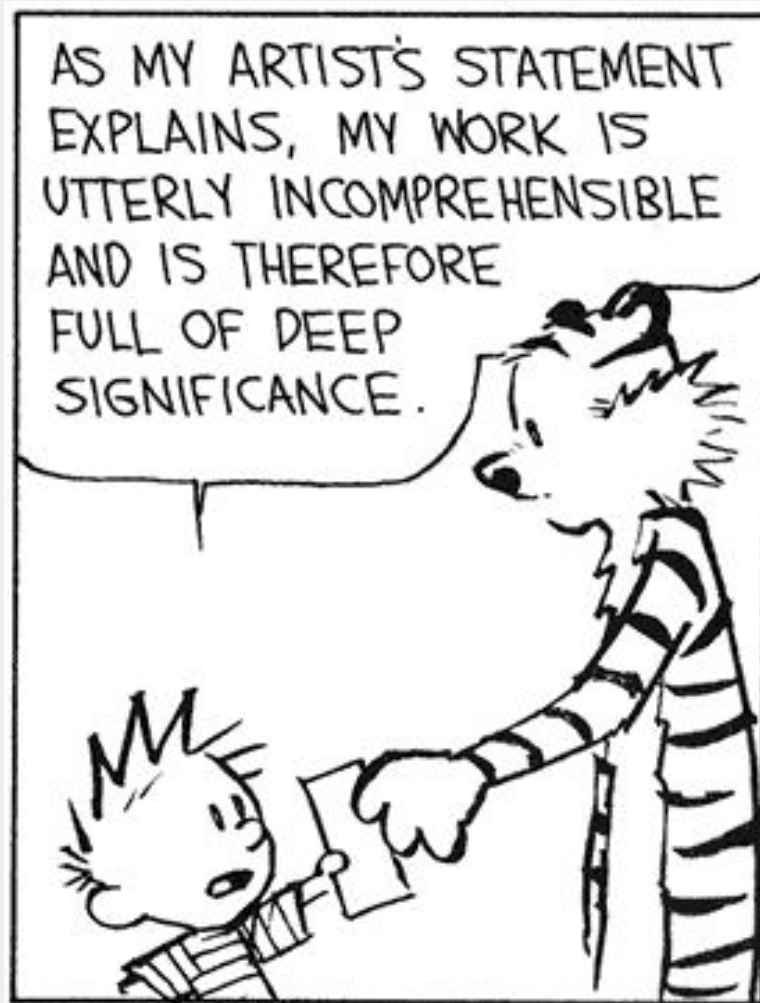
You want me to
write?

I'm an artist,
not a writer.

Overwhelmed

Defined by Art With Lauren

London, England - United Kingdom



Calvin & Hobbes
by Bill Watterson July 15, 1995

Desmond Tutu once wisely said that “there is only one way to eat an elephant: a bite at a time.”



What he meant by this is that everything in life that seems daunting, overwhelming, and even impossible can be accomplished gradually by taking on just a little at a time.

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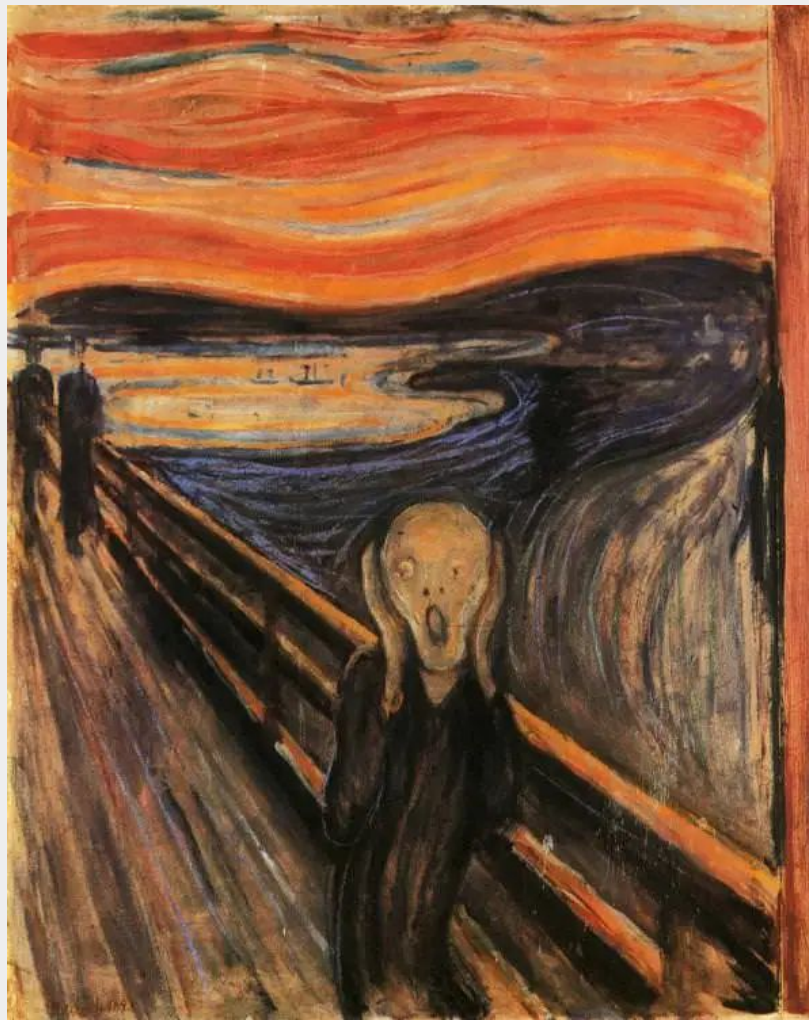
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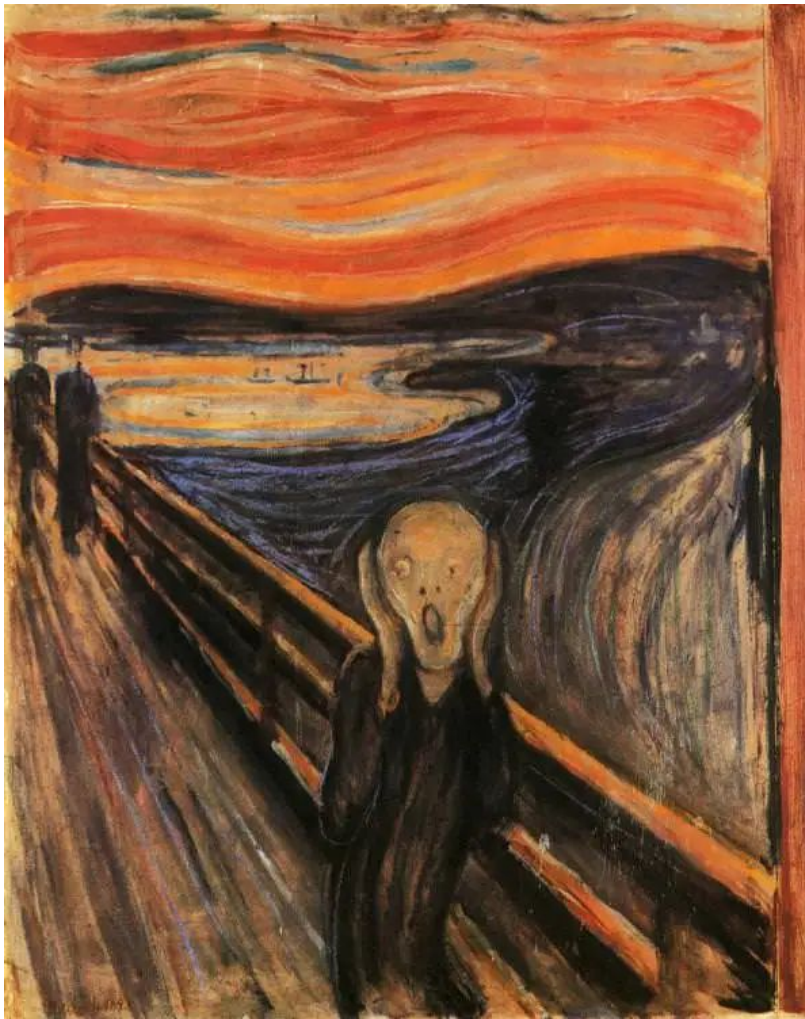




**Andy Warhol,
Marilyn Monroe, silkscreen print**

"I long for the old days of Marilyn Monroe and Audrey Hepburn, stars who had real glamour and mystique. We only knew so much about their lives; the rest was a mystery... My fascination with letting images repeat and repeat – or in a film's case 'run on' – manifests my belief that we spend much of our lives seeing without observing."





Edvard Munch, The Scream

“I was walking along a path with two friends – the sun was setting – suddenly the sky turned blood red – I paused, feeling exhausted, and leaned on the fence – there was blood and tongues of fire above the blue-black fjord and the city – my friends walked on, and I stood there trembling with anxiety – and I sensed an infinite scream passing through nature.”

Your turn.

- Photograph your work
- What inspired you to make this piece
- How does it make you feel
- What else stands out about this piece to you





Kelly Six

Dental Visit, glass bead

“I made this glass bead for my dental hygienist. I am usually apprehensive before any visit – and I ask for numbing gel right away. I wondered what it would look like if my tooth could express that emotion too.”

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If you were to look at your body of work, what does it all have in common?

- Take note of the parallels and contrasts.
- Pinpoint the phrases and feelings that come to mind.
- Consider what others have said about your works.



Catherine Murphy

Pink Tacks

2006

oil on canvas

56 x 56 inches

(142.2 x 142.2 cm)

“I first block in the chosen scene or object with broad brushstrokes. Then I begin using brushes of diminishing sizes that are gradually reduced to the smallest sable point... that’s what takes forever – closing in on the minutest detail and still have it be part of the whole.”

~ **Catherine Murphy**





Henry Moore
Large interior form

“I first make a maquette for any idea that I have for sculpture. The maquette is only three or four inches in size, and I can hold it my hand, turning it over to look at it from above, underneath, and in fact from every angle. Thus, from the very beginning I am working and thinking in three dimensions.” ~ **Henry Moore**





Faith Ringgold
The French
Collection
quilt

“My ideas come from reflecting on my life and the lives of people I have known and have been in some way inspired by. The story quilts grew out of my need to tell stories, not with pictures or symbols alone, but with words.”

~ **Faith Ringgold**



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_____ 's Artist's Statement

Your name here

Write a short statement about the importance of art in your life.

SNAKE-OIL LINIMENT

RELIEVES INSTANTANEOUSLY

AND CURES HEADACHE, NEURALGIA, TOOTHACHE, EARACHE, BACKACHE, SWELLINGS, SPRAINS, SORE CHEST, SWELLING of the THROAT, CONTRACTED CORDS and MUSCLES, STIFF JOINTS, WRENCHES, DISLOCATIONS, CUTS and BRUISES.

It Quickly takes out the Soreness and Inflammation from Corns, Bunions, Insect and Rattle Bites.

The best External Preparation for **BYCICLISTS** and **ATHLETES**. It makes the Muscles supple and Relaxes the Cords. Loosens the Joints and gives a feeling of Freshness and Vigor to the whole System.

SNAKE-OIL LINIMENT CURES ALL ACHES AND PAINS.

If you are suffering from Rheumatism, **ALWAYS** take **LA-CAS-KA** internally for the Blood and **SN** SNAKE-OIL LINIMENT externally. When used together we **GUARANTEE A CURE** in every instance or **MONEY REFUNDED**.

If You Are Afflicted With **DEAFNESS**

Get Our Specially Prepared

PURE Rattlesnake Oil

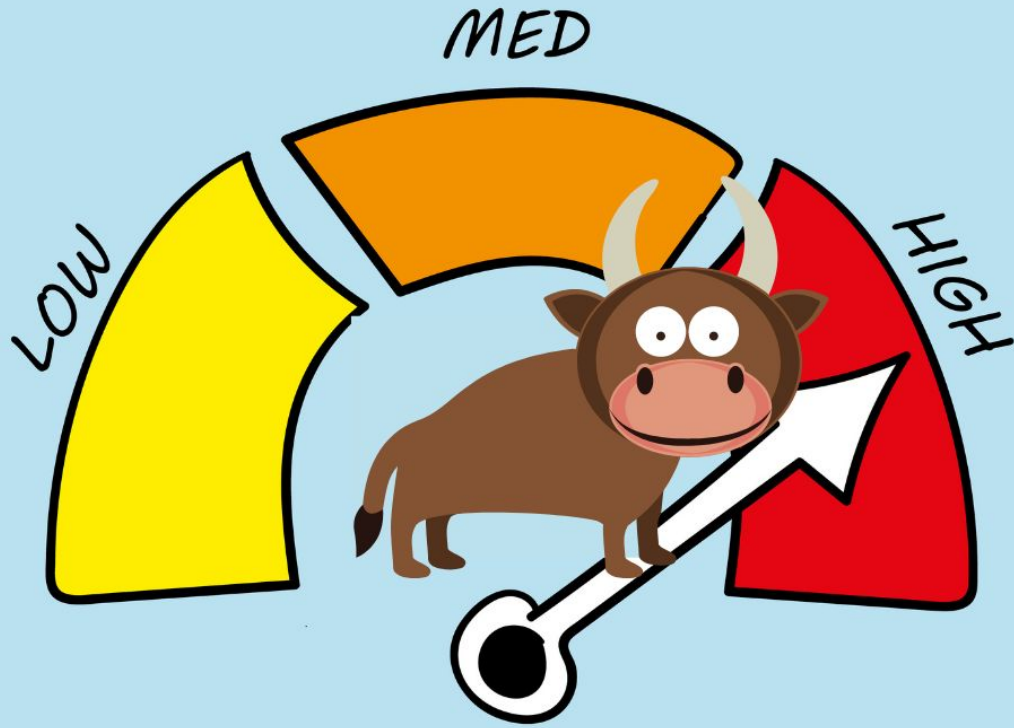


artist statement generator



<https://artist-statement-generator.webflow.io/>

<https://survivingart.com/home/grow/artist-statement-generator>



Bullpucky Meter



- DON'T imitate the writing often used in art magazines. Avoid artspeak and pretentious language. If your statement is difficult to read, it will NOT be read.
- DON'T try to impress the reader with your extensive knowledge of art criticism or vocabulary.
- DON'T announce what you are attempting to do, just clearly express what you have accomplished.



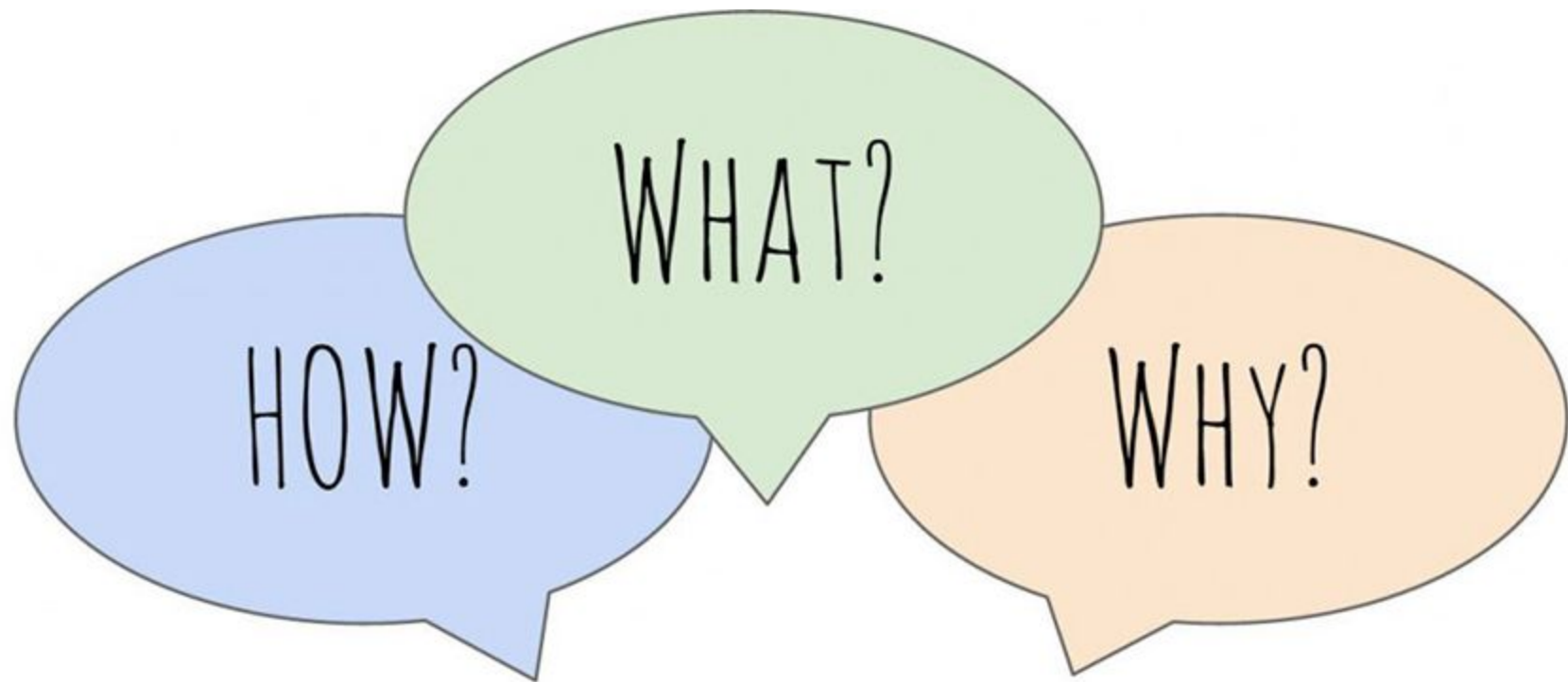
- DO write a strong, compelling statement without art jargon.
- DO develop a strong first sentence. Explain clearly and precisely why you make art, what it means to you and what materials you use. Tell a story about something that moved you into making a specific body of work. Draw the reader into your world.
- DO keep it as short as possible. No more than one typed page, double spaced, even less is better. It is an introduction and a supplement to the visual information, not your life story.
- DO focus on topics that may not be apparent from viewing your photos, such as, influences in your work: themes and issues. The techniques, materials used, or scale of the work can also be important information to include.



Lists! A possible approach

- List the nouns, verbs and adjectives that relate to your work.
- Then create sentences – this will refresh the way to talk about your work and open up your vocabulary.
- Formalize and organize your material.
- Begin with a sentence that sums up the central point of your artist's statement or essay and continue to build statement.

Most statements are no longer than one page, 1-3 paragraphs long.



HOW?

WHAT?

WHY?

What do you create?

Yes, this should state the obvious (glass, beads and sculpture). Don't forget that show juries and gallery visitors don't always see your work beside your artist statement.

Gather your work together (either physically or by photos) and really look at it. What comes to mind? What's common among the pieces? Is your work starting on a new trend? What adjectives come to mind?

How: what medium is your work, what techniques do you use?

Don't just state glass as many don't fully comprehend that:: make it 'glass rods, that I heat in the flame of a torch'

How do you describe your work to visitors to your booth at a show?

How do you describe what you're working on now to your mother or non-glass friends?

Why do you make what you make? What influences/inspires your work?

Imagine you're talking to a prospective buyer looking at that \$300 necklace you just made. You want them to appreciate it as a work of art, the craftsmanship, and as something which would enhance their appearance – what do you say so the buyer realizes it's special?

Has your work changed over time? Do you have a new focus? What made you make those changes?

Reverse-engineer this: put the answer to the question you'd like people to ask. If your story is color, write about why you use color. If you want them to notice your work is sea-inspired, contemporary, or differentiated by your use of negative space, write about it.

BEFORE

I like to make pretty things.

I like a lot of color.

I like seashells. They're popular.

BETTER

I create wearable art from earth-friendly sources of metal.

I continually explore patinas, enamels, and other techniques to make my jewelry sing with color and evoke emotions.

I'm inspired by the sea and its amazing creations, and use them in new combinations so others see them in a new light.

Does it sound like
you?

Does it sound like
something you'd
say to a buyer at
a show?



Sample of a really nice artists statement:

<https://www.fantasticalglass.com/about-the-artist>

[How to write an artist statement – The Creative Independent](#)

[8 Artist Statements We Love – The Art League](#)

[How To Write An Artist Statement: Expert Tips - Agora Gallery Advice Blog](#)

[How to Write an Artist Statement - AMCAW](#)

[Best Professional Practices for Artist Statements](#)

[A Quick Guide Developing Your Artists Statement](#)

<https://studylib.net/doc/8245420/artist-s-statements>

[ARTIST STATEMENT](#)

