

How to Write an Artist Statement

To write an artist statement, clearly explain "why" you create your artwork, discussing your motivations, inspirations, and themes, while also describing the "what" - your medium, style, and subject matter, using concise language, first person perspective, and avoiding unnecessary jargon, to give viewers insight into your artistic process and intentions.

An artist statement is usually 300-500 words, and is written in the first person. It should be a quick read, giving an overview of your practice and interests, with one or two artworks given importance, if needed. Describe your artwork? Describe the scale, format, colour, and texture of your work.

Key points to include:

- **Your artistic vision:** What are the central ideas or themes you explore through your work?
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- **Medium and style:** What materials do you use and how do you approach your artmaking process?
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- **Influences:** Are there specific artists, events, or experiences that inspire your work?
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- **Meaning behind your work:** Explain what you hope viewers will take away from your art
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- **Connections between pieces:** How do different artworks within a series or body of work relate to each other?

How to structure your artist statement:

- **Start with a clear introduction:** Briefly state your artistic practice and the main focus of your work.
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- **Explain your process:** Discuss your creative techniques, materials, and any unique aspects of your approach.
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- **Connect themes to your work:** Elaborate on the deeper meanings and ideas behind your art.
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- **Conclude with a reflection:** Summarize your artistic goals and how you see your work evolving.

Important considerations:

- **Keep it concise:** Aim for a short, focused statement, typically a few paragraphs long.
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- **Use active voice:** Write in the first person to directly connect with the reader.
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- **Avoid jargon:** Use accessible language that a general audience can understand.
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- **Tailor to the context:** Adapt your statement based on the specific exhibition or application.
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Example opening sentence:

- "My paintings explore the relationship between human emotions and the natural world, using vibrant colors and abstract forms to evoke a sense of wonder and introspection."