

BY JENNIFER KIM

# I AM AN ARTIST

Answering the “why” questions

**I** am an artist.

**I** paint on any surface I find, including my neighbor’s back patio. Because the world is my canvas and I am doing something brave and real. And when my neighbor knocks on my door to confront me, I hide in my pantry and pretend not to be home. That is part of it.

**It is difficult to be an artist like me** because I am not popular amongst the youths and I am not popular amongst the adults. Also, I am not popular.

**I carry around a pencil in my hair at all times** because you never know when inspiration might strike. The downside to this is that my hair is filled with pencils.

**I would like to collaborate** with other people. But they would not like to collaborate with me. Something about how at the last “wine and cheese mixer” I “took my pants off” and told everyone their art was “derivative” and “lame” and that they were all “losers in my book!” I don’t remember doing that and even if I did, it was probably some sort of performance art thing that I was doing.

**It’s hard to be an artist that pushes boundaries** because not everyone understands my intentions. I get a lot of “why” questions. “Why are you doing this?” “Why would you take the time to repaint that entire gray wall in exactly the same

color? It’s gray still. You can’t even tell that you did anything.” “Why...sorry, I meant what is *wrong* with you?” And to those confused audience members, I ask you to not see the art for what it might be on the surface, but dig deeper. Because that piece is actually about racism. Now, think about why you didn’t catch that.

**I make art naked.** Meaning, I am naked, and I order my assistant to go outside and make the art for me. Some say that this is cheating. I say, whose name is on that piece of art? Is it good? If it’s good it’s me and if it’s bad, it’s my assistant’s.

**It is difficult when you see the world in color** and everyone else sees it in black and white. That is the artist’s way. I guess it is also the way of a person who is not color-blind, hanging around a bunch of color-blind people. But are they good at painting fruits? Didn’t think so.

**Since it is hard for people to understand** what I do and how creative I am, I like to wear my smock everywhere I go to show everyone up. Except sometimes, people think I’m a chef or a barbershop man or something instead. And to those people, it’s like are you stupid or something?

**And with that, I conclude my introduction.** Again, welcome to my exhibition. Donations are accepted and strongly encouraged. You can also just give me cash right now if you want. I’d actually rather do that, let’s do that. **B**

**JENNIFER KIM** (@kjenn32) is a comedy writer in Los Angeles. She has contributed to places like *McSweeney’s*, *Points in Case*, and *Little Old Lady Comedy*. It is good!



• Sky Blue

• Serge Blue

• Carmine

• Carmine X-S

Opaque  
• Titanium (Fl

• Cadmium Orange

• Cadmium Orange X-S

• Burnt Sienna

• Paynes Gray

• Cobalt

• Cobalt Violet X-S

• Baby Blue

• Raw Sienna

• Raw Sienna X-S

• Oxide Green

• Oxide Green X-S

• Ivory Black

• Ivory Black X-S

• Sky Blue

• Cadmium Orange

• Cadmium Orange X-S

• Burnt Sienna

• Tree Green X-S

• Chinese Blue

• Raw Sienna

• Raw Sienna X-S

• Verona Brown

• Viridian

• Viridian X-S

• Paynes Gray

• Sky Blue

• Chinese Blue

• Burnt Sienna

• Verona Brown

• Verona Brown X-S

• Viridian

• Viridian

• Vermilion

• Vermilion

• Oxide Green

• Oxide Green X-S

• Ivory Black

• Ivory Black X-S