

MPRISOND (2014)



9 in. x 12 in.

Wax, graphite, and black pastel on paper

Donald "C-Note" Hooker

Mprisond is the follow-up to *My Dilemma*. Both works use the contrast of a dark cell versus the warm light outside of it. "I am highly influenced by the use of aerial perspective of the Renaissance," says C-Note. "One thing I love about this piece, I hope it

causes the viewer to do some deep reflection. In other words, I want them to relate it to the areas in their own lives that they feel imprisoned. I want people to walk away from this work with the sense, ‘You don’t have to be imprisoned, to be imprisoned.’”

Mprisond was the painting the artist used to create the first paintoem, and has one of the most memorable opening stanzas, “Rapunzel could let down her hair/ because someone care.” See “Mprisond,” *Mprisond Poetz*, 18 Aug. 2016, <https://mprisondpoetz.wordpress.com/2016/08/18/mprisond/>

Its aesthetics also caught the attention of the computer algorithms of Google. Whenever the question is asked of Google Search Images, “Who is America’s most prolific prisoner-artist?”; *Mprisond* is shown in the top 10 of their image results. When Google Search Images is asked, “Who is the world’s most prolific prisoner-artist?”; it is shown in their top 30 image results.

In 2016 the artist donated *Mprisond* to the Prison Arts Collective. That same year it was exhibited in the “Through The Wall,” prisoner art exhibition at the CB-1 Gallery in Downtown, Los Angeles. The exhibit included the works of two California men’s prisons and a women’s prison. You can see these works published in *Through the Wall*, Prison Arts Collective 2016. *Mprisond* is available in prints, canvas, greeting cards... at Fine Art America. <https://fineartamerica.com/featured/mprisond-cn.html>