

*I kneel with you as an artist-friend, in shared community. I kneel now in solidarity to call attention to the issues of racial inequity, including police killing of Black and Brown bodies and other forms of white supremacy's systematic brutality. As a child, I learned to kneel to pray. At points of my life I have been on my knees in sorrow, begging for a gift, or in gratitude. I believe being on ones knee is the most graceful sign of peaceful protest: a signal of honor, reverence, and surrender. For me, prayer is a time for emptiness and silence rather than active reflection. I think that is why I instinctively covered my chest when asked to pose: I hold the unjust treatment of Black and Brown people there in my heart.*

*- Kelly McConnell*