

# An Interview on Safety by Mark Stanley-Bey

*What does the word liberation mean to you?*

This year liberation means - continued support of the human race through my artwork.

*What gives you hope? What keeps you going?*

Hope for me in this moment demands faith, for faith - is - sustains things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen.

*How does your incarceration affect your family or loved ones on the outside? Have you been able to connect with them?*

After serving 35 years and no hope of being with family again.. we are resolved to be in the embrace of God and that we'll see each other in heaven.. since mass incarceration is the norm for a African-American like myself.

*What was your life like on the outside? Who are you beyond bars?*

35 years ago I worked in the VA hospital in Los Angeles Area. Yet, I had issues like many; But, got by like many others until I was incarcerated. Today, I am a man who has served 35 years and is 63 years old. I've had a serious injury, suffered transient Ischemic attack (TIA - Mini stroke) due to poor health care. My granddaughter Aye, says my life matters and wants me to be a good Grampa should I ever be released.