

STEVE SABELLA

The Palestinian artist on his hair, oysters, faraway galaxies and chocolate.

The ideal meal with one artist is:

Sushi at a refined restaurant in Tokyo with Mona Hatoum.

Five prerequisites for survival in the art world: Patience, nerves, imagination, patience and nerves.

Looking back at my career in the art world, I wish I had: Created more art and spoken less!

I was lost for words when: A visitor to a black-and-white exhibition of mine said, "I love your work, it is amazing, but do you have it in colour?"

The art world's biggest crime is: That artists need to sell their art to make a living.

You would be shocked to know that I: No longer feel in exile.

It would make my parents proud to know that: I am writing a book called *The Artist's Curse*.

At art fairs, I wish they would serve: Oysters.

I am happiest when: I am back at my 'canvas' creating art.

My biggest pet peeve: When my work is hung upside down.

Mankind is capable of great: Brutality and crime.

My best art investment is: In the production of my work.

The artwork that left a big impact on me

was: The light installation by Anthony McCall at Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin in 2012.

If I were stranded on an island that had abundant food, shelter and electronics, the three things I would take with me are: Just my ring.

For inspiration, I go to: Galaxies far from earth.

Life would be meaningless without: Imagination.

I owe my success to: Destiny and hard work.

The three things I look for in an artwork are: Content, immediacy and presentation.

If there is one era I would go back to, it would be: I do not want to go back anywhere. I wish to go to the future.

My biggest vanity is: My hair.

My biggest vice: Waking up at night to eat chocolate.

I just don't understand: Racism.

Bad art is: Everywhere.

I would have loved to be a fly on the wall when: The alleged peace agreements were signed with Israel.

One of the art world's greatest unsung heroes was: Vilém Flusser, who understood things about photography in the 1970s and 1980s that people have only recently begun to appreciate. ☺

