



PARRISH ART MUSEUM

JACKIE BLACK: LAST MEAL

August 7, 2020–January 31, 2021

All works:

Jackie Black (American, born 1958)

Last Meal (series), 2001–2003

Archival pigment on paper

12 x 12 inches

Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, N.Y., Museum purchase with funds provided by the Bessemer Trust, 2016.33(a-x)

1. Thomas Andy Barefoot

Executed: October 30, 1984

Education: Not listed

Occupation: Oil field roughneck

Last Statement: "I hope that one day we can look back on the evil that we're doing right now like the witches we burned at the stake. I want everybody to know that I hold nothing against them. I forgive them all. I hope everybody I've done anything to will forgive me. I've been praying all day for (the victim's) wife to drive the bitterness from her heart because that bitterness that's in her heart will send her to Hell just as surely as any other sin. I'm sorry for everything I've ever done to anybody. I hope they'll forgive me. . ."

2. Charles Frances Rumbaugh

Executed: September 11, 1985

No background information given

Last Statement: ". . . About all I can say is goodbye, and for all the rest of you, although you don't forgive me for my transgressions, I forgive yours against me. I am ready to begin my journey. . ."





PARRISH ART MUSEUM

3. Charles William Bass

Executed: March 12, 1986

No background information given

Last Statement: "I deserve this. Tell everyone I said goodbye."



4. Jeffrey Allen Barney

Executed: April 16, 1986

No background information given

Last Statement: ". . . I am sorry for what I've done. I deserve this. Jesus forgive me."



5. Robert Streetman

Executed: January 7, 1988

No background information given

No Last Statement





PARRISH ART MUSEUM

6. James Russell

Executed: September 19, 1991

Education: 10 years

Occupation: Musician

Last Statement: (Last statement reported to have lasted 3 minutes, but it was either not transcribed or not recorded)



7. Johnny Frank Garrett

Executed: February 11, 1992

Education: 7 years

Occupation: Laborer

Last Statement: "I'd like to thank my family for loving me and taking care of me. And the rest of the world can kiss my ass."



8. Billy Conn Gardner

Executed: February 16, 1995

Education: 12 years

Occupation: Welder

Last Statement: "I forgive all of you – hope God forgives all of you too."





PARRISH ART MUSEUM

9. Hai Hai Vuong

Executed: December 7, 1995

Education: 7 years

Occupation: Shrimper

Last Statement: "I thank God that he died for my sins on the cross, and I thank him for saving my soul, so I will know when my body lays back in the grave, my soul goes to be with the Lord. Praise God. I hope whoever hears my voice tonight will turn to the Lord. I give my spirit back to him. Praise the Lord. Praise Jesus. Hallelujah."



10. Anthony Ray Westley

Executed: May 13, 1997

Education: 8 years

Occupation: Laborer

Last Statement: "I want you to know that I did not kill anyone. I love you all."



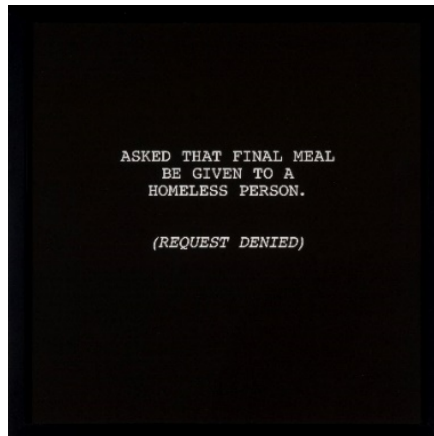
11. Robert Anthony Madden

Executed: May 28, 1997

Education: 12 years

Occupation: Cook

Last Statement: ". . . I apologize for your loss and your pain, but I didn't kill those people. Hopefully we will all learn something about ourselves and each other and we will learn to stop the cycle of hate and vengeance and come to value what is really going on in this world. . . I forgive everyone for this process which seems to be wrong. . . ."





PARRISH ART MUSEUM

12. Patrick F. Rogers

Executed: June 2, 1997

Education: 10 years

Occupation: Waiter

Last Statement: ". . .Don't let these people break you. Keep true to nature. You do not have to act like them. Rise above it. . .Praise Allah."



13. David Wayne Stoker

Executed: June 16, 1997

Education: 8 years

Occupation: Heavy equipment operator/carpenter

Last Statement: ". . .I am truly sorry for your loss. . . But I didn't kill anyone."



14. Karla Faye Tucker

Executed: February 3, 1998

Education: 7 years

Occupation: Office worker

Last Statement: "Yes sir, I would like to say to all of you – (the family) that I am so sorry. I hope God will give you peace with this. . . .I love all of you very much. I am going to be face to face with Jesus now. Warden Baggett, thank all of you so much. You have been so good to me. I love all of you very much. I will see you all when you get there. I will wait for you."





PARRISH ART MUSEUM

15. David Allen Castillo

Executed: August 23, 1998

Education: 9 years

Occupation: Electrician

Last Statement: ". . .Little people always seem to get squashed. It happens. Even so, just got to take the good with the bad. There is no man that is free from all evil, nor any man that is so evil to be worth nothing. . ."



16. Clydell Coleman

Executed: May 5, 1999

Education: 11 years

Occupation: Janitor

No Last Statement



17. William Prince Davis

Executed: September 14, 1999

Education: 7 years

Occupation: Roofer

Last Statement: ". . .I would like to say to the family how truly sorry I am in my soul and in my heart of hearts for the pain and misery that I have caused from my actions. . .I would like to thank all of the men on Death Row who have showed me love throughout the years. . .I hope that by donating my body to science that some parts of it can be used to help someone. . .That is all I have to say, Warden. Oh, I would like to say in closing, what about those Cowboys?"





PARRISH ART MUSEUM

18. James Beathard

Executed: December 9, 1999

Education: 15 years

Occupation: Motorcycle mechanic

After his trial, the prosecution's key witness recanted his testimony, casting additional doubt on the case against him. Three members of the parole board had recommended clemency for Beathard.

Last Statement: "I want to start out by acknowledging the love that I've had in my family. No man in this world has had a better family than me. I had the best parents in the world. I've had the most wonderful life any man could have ever had. I've never been more proud of anyone than I have of my daughter and son. . . .

Couple of matters I want to talk about since this is one of the few times people will listen to what I have to say. The United States has gotten (to a place) now where (there is) zero respect for human life. My death is just a symptom of a bigger illness. At some point the government has got to wake up and stop doing things to destroy other countries and killing innocent children. The ongoing embargo and sanctions against places like Iran and Iraq, Cuba and other places. They are not doing anything to change the world and they are hurting innocent children. . .

Perhaps more important in a lot of ways is what we are doing to the environment is even more devastating because as long as we keep going the direction we're going the end result is it won't matter how we treat other people because everybody on the planet will be on their way out. One of the few ways in the world the truth is ever going to get out, or people are ever going to know what's happening as long as we support a free press out there. I see the press struggling to stay existent as a free institution. . . .





PARRISH ART MUSEUM

I would like to address the State of Texas and specially Joe Price, the District Attorney who put me here. I want to remind Mr. Price of the mistake he made at Gene Hawthorn's trial when he said that Gene Hawthorn was telling the truth at my trial. . . .Gene Hawthorn lied at my trial. Everybody knew it. I'm dying tonight based on testimony, that all parties, me, the man who gave the testimony, the prosecutor he used knew it was a lie. I am hoping somebody will call him to the floor for recent comments he's made in the newspaper. It's bad enough that a prosecutor can take truth and spin on it and try to redoctor it. But when they actually make facts up and present to the public as trials evidence, . . .that's completely unforgivable. .

That's really all I have to say except that I love my family and nobody, nobody has got a better family than me. . ."

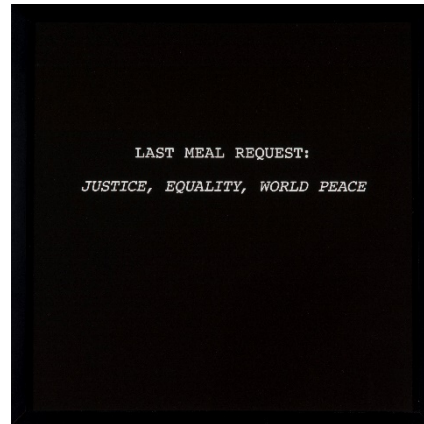
19. Odell Barnes, Jr.

Executed: March 1, 2000

Education: 11 years

Occupation: Construction worker

Last Statement: "I'd like to send great love to all my family members, my supporters, my attorneys. They have all supported me through this. I thank you for proving my innocence, although it has not yet been acknowledged by the courts. May you continue in the struggle and may you change all that's been done here today and in the past. Life has not been that good to me, but I believe that now, after meeting so many people who support me in this, that all things will come to an end, and may this be fruit of better judgments for the future. That's all I have to say."





PARRISH ART MUSEUM

20. William Joseph Kitchens

Executed: May 9, 2000

Education: 8 years

Occupation: Painter

Last Statement: ". . . I am sorry for what I did. There is no way for expressing I am sorry. I just hope that in some kind of way that y'all can move on and find peace in your life. The Lord has given me peace and that is all that I pray for is that y'all can find that peace."



21. James Edward Clayton

Executed: May 25, 2000

Education: 14 years

Occupation: Clerk

Last Statement: "I would like to take this time, to use this moment (as) an example for Christ. I would like to follow his example and leave with peace in my heart and forgiveness. There is no anger in my heart about this entire situation. I just want to testify to all of y'all that I have loved you. I appreciate your concern and genuine love for me. God bless you. I love all of you. Jesus is Lord."



22. Stacy Lamont Lawton

Executed: November 14, 2000

Education: 11 years

Occupation: Carpenter

Last Statement: ". . . I don't want y'all to look at me like I am a killer or something 'cause I ain't no killer. I didn't kill your father, I know how it look, but I didn't do it. . ."





PARRISH ART MUSEUM

23. Gerald Lee Mitchell

Executed: October 22, 2001

Education: 10 years

Occupation: Carpenter

Last Statement: ". . . I am sorry for the pain. I am sorry for the life I took from you. I ask God for forgiveness and I ask you for the same. I know it may be hard, but I'm sorry for what I did. To my family I love each and every one of you. Be strong. Know my love is always with you, always. I know I am going home to be with the Lord. Shed tears of happiness for me. . . ."

