



**Folsom State Prison, Represa, CA, August 25, 2015, from the “Listen” project, 2006–18**

**Date**  
August 25, 2015

**Primary Maker**  
Rhona Bitner

**Medium**  
Fujiflex print

**Description**  
California’s second oldest prison, Folsom, dates from 1880. Although it is now a medium-security facility, it was one of the first maximum-security institutions in the United States, notorious for its harsh conditions. Johnny Cash was born poor in rural Arkansas and spent his life acutely sensitive to the plight of society’s outsiders. He was inspired to write “Folsom Prison Blues” in 1953 after seeing the movie Inside the Walls of Folsom Prison while

serving in the United States Air Force. He recorded his live concert for the inmates on January 13, 1968. Released as At Folsom Prison, it became a # No. 1 hit on the country music charts in 1968 and went gold six months later.

**Dimensions**  
Image: 40 x 40 in. (101.6 x 101.6 cm) Frame: 41 1/2 x 41 1/2 x 1 1/2 in. (105.4 x 105.4 x 3.8 cm)