Annamarie Pabst Conversation Notes

I spent the year 2006 teaching English in Vietnam.  During that time I had the opportunity to visit the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.  Inside the museum, which was a prison during Khmer Rouge, there are walls and walls of mugshots that were taken of the prisoners during their time there.  This is a very affecting memorial to see in person.

Since I already do portraiture, I felt compelled to do renderings of these photographs.  I drew a series of 4 portraits, and I chose images that emit a survivalist defiance in the face of torture and death.

Here is an article written by Matt Fink.  It articulates how artists tend to use tragedy for their subject matter and why:  <http://www.luxecultura.com/project/annamarie-artist-profile/>