



# Featuring WILLIE E. WILLIAMS, JR.

*My creative philosophy is inspired by Paul Roberson's quote that artists are "the gatekeepers of the truth." The concept of truth is relative to the individual, but to me it means authenticity - in who you are and to the experience you come from. I create with this though in mind as I delve into themes related*

*to African- American culture, which is a multifaceted identity within itself. I interchangeably work in the mediums of sculpture, painting, and drawing to represent different aspects of my culture in a variety of ways, which all working together to achieve my purpose of positively representing and preserving African-American culture beyond the stereotypes that has undermined its greatness.*

*I am a native of Birmingham, AL. I received formal art training from the Alabama School of Fine Arts from 2009-2014, where I graduated from the Visual Arts Department. Following graduation, I attended Birmingham-Southern College, receiving a B.F.A in art in May of 2018. I currently own and operate my studio and gallery, Studio 2500, which is located in North Birmingham. Notable achievements include national recognition in the Young Artist Association. Features include the City of Birmingham's segment 99 Voices, BhamTimes, The Birmingham Times, AL.com. I have also exhibited and displayed my work in various parts of the country including Chicago, NYC, Houston, and Atlanta.*