



Featuring

WILLIE E. WILLIAMS, SR.

Art started for me with middle school class projects and a weekend art class financed by my grandmother. Subsequently, my first art piece titled “Shoe Shine Boy” was the beginning of my artist journey. Now 40 years later with experience and degrees in Architecture (BS and MA) from Tuskegee University, I have come full circle using art as my platform to express those experiences.

My use of geometric forms and shapes is an abstract expression of integrating Art and Architecture through African tribal masks and I use those expressions to connect to my African culture. The use of carbon steel is metaphorical and refers to the diluting and disconnection from my culture as a result of an imposed European Western Culture.

Conceptually, I am influenced by my son, Willie Williams, Jr. and African tribal masks. Although I can’t truly and authentically connect to my African roots, I abstractly bridge my connection to my removed African culture through the forms and shapes in my pieces. The hope of my artwork is to inform and process the effects of our displacement as African-Americans. Through this I wish to inspire a greater and deeper appreciation of our culture, community, and relationships.