

Black Love
is **Liberation**

A Visual Timeline of Black Love Thru The Ages

Curated By Akiya McKnight



Catalog

Black Love is Liberation: A Visual Timeline Of Black Love Thru The Ages

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Black Excellence Society, Color Creative Consulting and SoLA Contemporary presents a conceptual body of work created to celebrate the history of black love throughout the ages as a live art exhibit in an effort to not only remember our past but to also inspire atonement, peace, & celebration.

The exhibition will center on four principles: love of oneself, love of the Black family, love of/within the black community, & love for the black people. As we strive to achieve complete mental, financial, & spiritual liberation, the ideal moment to honor the concept of black liberation as a visual timeline.

All works are moments of historical information about black love throughout history, commissioned art, artifacts, as well as old & new age video footage of prominent figures discussing love in all of its revolutionary guises.

Presenting Artwork by:

Brittney S. Price
Denise Coke
Shakir Manners
Chuck Marcus/ Michelle Nance

Sponsored by:

Color Creative Consulting
SoLA Contemporary
Black Excellence Society
Culture Makers Inc

Brittney S. Price



Bio: Brittney S. Price is a Los Angeles-based fine artist and muralist renowned for her thought-provoking visual narratives that highlight current events. Her art, stemming from her unique perspective as a Black American woman, amplifies the voices and experiences of marginalized communities. Using various mediums such as painting, murals, and mixed media, Brittney's work delves deep into the human condition, exploring themes like identity, social justice, and resilience.

Central to her art is the Sankofa Adinkra symbol, guiding her exploration of the past, present, and future. Brittney's creations serve as a catalyst for social change and empowerment, inviting viewers to engage in meaningful dialogues. Her dedication to inclusivity and equity has garnered her recognition in exhibitions and public spaces, making her a powerful force in contemporary art, leaving an enduring impact on global audiences.

Brittney S. Price



“Ours 2 Be”

Medium: portraiture, acrylic on stretched canvas

Dimensions: 72x60x1 ½”

Price: \$8,000

Short description:

This artwork explores the complexity of "love" in the artist's terms, challenging preconceived notions of what love truly means. It's the second installment in the "Agape" series, delving into the expectations, limitations, and power of love. The piece embodies a fusion of Eros (romantic, passionate love) and Pragma (committed, enduring love) simultaneously, reflecting the multifaceted nature of this emotion.

Brittney S. Price



“Philia: The Sisterhood”

Medium: portraiture, acrylic on stretched canvas

Dimensions: 112 x 48 x 1 ½” across (3) 36 x 48 x 1 ½” canvases

Price: \$12,000

Short description: This artwork delves deep into the intricate concept of "love" as perceived by the artist, defying conventional definitions. As the third piece in the "Agape" series, it intricately examines the expectations, constraints, and profound influence of love. Beyond this, it encapsulates the essence of philia love, which extends beyond friendship to encompass family, colleagues, and peers, defined by qualities like mutual acceptance, honesty, compassion, and trust. In doing so, it beautifully portrays the rich complexity of this profound emotion.

Brittney S. Price



“Self Portrait”

Medium: Acrylic, Stretched Canvas

Dimensions: 48” x 48” in

Price: \$12,000

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Shakir Manners



With an energy that matches the very city he beautifies with every paint stroke, Shakir Manners (or Shak Smart) has many goals, but none greater than his mission to have that experience of unencumbered freedom by expressing himself through art. Originally from Seat Pleasant Maryland near our Nations capitol Washington DC., Shak relocated to Los Angeles and has been a growing presence in the world-renowned graffiti, muralist scene since 2013. Maintaining an open mind for creative inspiration, he roams the city on his electric motorcycle, fully engulfing himself in the multi-cultural metropolis he calls home, absorbing everything in his path like a brush soaks in a dab of paint from a palette, and translates it into his work.

Early on, a chance encounter with world famous muralist, Vice Versa and David Flores, would be a moment that would set a course that Shak would follow as his chosen destiny. This meeting lead to a mentorship where he was able to hone his skills, develop a signature style, and step closer to that goal of channeling himself onto walls to reach that pure feeling of freedom. He's painted in over twenty states, three countries, and undoubtedly an incalculable number of concrete/brick/plaster walls bare the evidence. Hoping to pull out an emotional response is every artists' sole purpose, but by combining vibrant colors in his beautiful imagery with the element of positive topical statements on a colossal scale, the viewer is undoubtedly taken by the display of any given Shak Smart murals they encounter. Inclusion, representation, social justice, just a handful of primary components that can be found in his artwork.

Shakir Manners



“The Mask We Wear”

Medium: Acrylic Paint, Spray Paint on Canvas

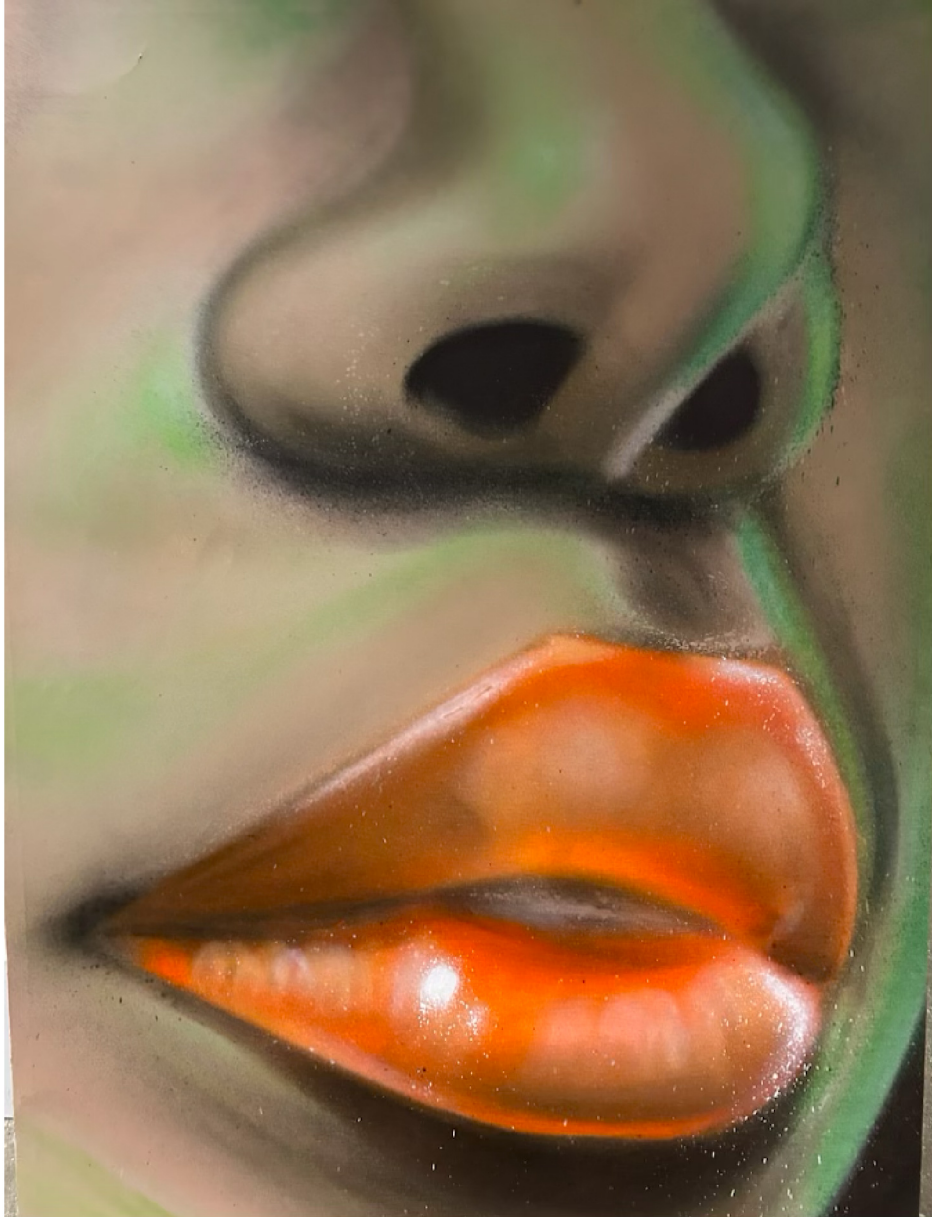
Dimensions: 40” x 20”

Price: \$4,000

Short description:

This Painting was created after my tour to Ghana in 2019(Year of the Return). Ghana was an amazing trip and experience in which I painted over 8 murals, connected with the community, embraced my roots, culture shocked, new knowledge on oneself and ultimately I felt covered and blessed by the ancestors able to be proceed back into the states. I connected with so many other young peers who felt the same way. I went back to the USA with a new outlook in life and saw my peers in a new light as they did me. I pray everyone finds their knowledge to respect themselves and others.

Shakir Manners



“Lips - Tasting Your Touch”

Medium: Spray Paint on Canvas

Dimensions: 36” x 20” in

Price: \$4,927.50

Short description:

This Painting was created after my tour to Ghana in 2019 (Year of the Return). Ghana was an amazing trip and experience in which I painted over 8 murals, connected with the community, embraced my roots, culture shocked, new knowledge on oneself and ultimately I felt covered and blessed by the ancestors able to be proceed back into the states. I connected with so many other young peers who felt the same way. I went back to the USA with a new outlook in life and saw my peers in a new light as they did me. I pray everyone finds their knowledge to respect themselves and others.

Shakir Manners



“Ear - Hearing The Touch”

Medium: Spray Paint on Canvas, Framed

Dimensions: 20” x 20” in

Price: \$2,737.50

Short description:

This Painting was created after my tour to Ghana in 2019 (Year of the Return). Ghana was an amazing trip and experience in which I painted over 8 murals, connected with the community, embraced my roots, culture shocked, new knowledge on oneself and ultimately I felt covered and blessed by the ancestors able to be proceed back into the states. I connected with so many other young peers who felt the same way. I went back to the USA with a new outlook in life and saw my peers in a new light as they did me. I pray everyone finds their knowledge to respect themselves and others.

Denise Coke



Bio: Award-winning creative director and owner of \$NP Designs, Denise 'deLaSNP' Coke is a Caribbean American augmented reality and digital artist born in Jamaica, Queens in 1993; currently residing between New York and California. Denise's artistic journey started at the tender age of 2 when she would draw in all of the books around her house. After acquiring a certificate in Fashion Design from HSFI, Denise received her BFA in Graphic Design from the Shintaro Akatsu School of Design at the University of Bridgeport. She studied abroad at Hanyang University in South Korea. She is the founder of A Decade of Dimensions, an artistic, immersive augmented reality art show that showcases her work around the country, and has provided commissioned pieces for The Madison Square Garden Company, Upwork, The University of Bridgeport, NYC Department of Education, Nike and Google. Her work can be seen internationally in Puerto Rico, South Korea, and Australia.

Denise Coke



“Bodega”

Medium: Digital Painting on Canvas with Augmented Reality Capabilities

Dimensions: 30x40 (Framed), 24x36, 40x30”

Price: \$7,500

Short description:

Missing the old New York, I created the typical summer afternoon on the corner. Due to gentrification, many of the things I loved about my hometown are gone.

Denise Coke



“Self Portrait”

Medium: Digital Painting on Canvas with Augmented Reality Capabilities

Dimensions: 30x40 (Framed), 24x36, 40x30”

Price: \$1,500

Short description:

The Abstract Portrait of Denise deLaSNP Coke

Chuck X

Michelle

Chuck Marcus Bio:

Chuck Marcus is photographer and creative director dedicated to highlighting the stories he finds most important to share. residing in Atlanta, GA.

Michelle Nance Bio:

Michelle Nance is a media and advertising executive, creative writer and songwriter residing in Brooklyn, NY.

Millennial Love Stories Bio:

Millennial Love Stories exists to infuse positive representations of Black relationships and the love they exude into modern culture. Through intimate conversations, photography and video Chuck Marcus and Michelle Nance explore the nuances of commitment for this generation.