

Dirty South Scribes Artist Bios

Claire Alexandre

Claire Alexandre is a Diaspora child, Abolitionist feminist storyteller and student of all ecologies who weaves autobiographical reflections with ancestral wisdom. Through mixed media paintings and street art, she elaborates detailed portraits infused with notions of struggles and strength that exist at the intersection between environmental, gender and racial justice.

She seeks to deepen our collective understanding of community prosperity and its close ties with sustainable land stewardship. From the studio to the street, canvas to concrete, she uses a wide variety of surfaces to reclaim space for the voices of marginalized communities — particularly Black queer women identifying folks — to be witnessed and celebrated in all their complexities and colors.

W. Ellington Felton

W. Ellington Felton is a Washington, D.C. native and son of Jazz Musician Hilton Felton, Jr. He has recorded over 25 solo albums and has a Hip Hop Soul Group called "The Crossrhodes" alongside R&B Crooner Raheem Devaughn. But Felton is more than just a musical artist — he embodies what it means to be a multidisciplinary artist; he is also a poet, a writer and a painter.

By studying many different art forms, Felton can produce paintings that capture the audience's eyes the moment their eyes land on his work. His paintings have an illuminating effect, like that of a stained-glass window. In the background of these paintings, it almost appears that the elements are ethereal, but they usually contain a message or words from the figure he has painted. If you are drawn to Neo-expressionism, then you will be drawn to Felton's works.

Quake Solo

Quake Solo is a multidisciplinary artist based out of Atlanta. Within his work, Quake's main goal is to develop art that invokes unexpected feelings from within the viewer. Pulling ideas nostalgically from his past, he has created works depicting war, action and expressive surrealism. Quake's lack of fear to portray what the masses are afraid to speak on has been key within his artistic expression as his inspiration stems from the gritty yet sensual nature of life pertaining to societal issues and current events.

Regardless of how Quake is perceived or stereotyped, his goal is to make sure the art is bigger than himself.

Quarles

Unorthodox, “contrary to what is usual, traditional or accepted; not conforming to rules, traditions or mode of conduct.”

“Unorthodox is one of the words I commonly use to describe my art. I don’t follow rules or traditional methods of what other artists do or have done nor do I want to.”

I want people to be able to walk into a home, business, gallery or any other venue and immediately be able to recognize a Darius Quarles work of art just as they would a Dali, Matisse, Monet, Ernie Barnes or any other great.

Dedren Snead

Dedren Snead is an artist, developer, creative consultant, emerging technologist and futurist from Atlanta. Dedren uses graphic novels, animation, gaming and augmented reality to build inclusive storytelling platforms in the Metaverse that perform for social good.

His futures company SUBSUME looks to close the Digital Divide between marginalized voices and cultures through inclusive shared media works that fosters technology equity and makes the transmedia experience accessible and sustainable for all.

A serial entrepreneur, Dedren’s most recent project is an educational technology platform that connects K-12 and Early Career students to pathways in Creative and Technical careers through gamified project-based learning modules and workforce development.

Dedren hosts SUBSUME SUMMIT a series of virtual and hybrid engagements centered around Afrofuturism and Speculative Fiction in comic books, games, film and art to foster growth for Black and BIPOC+ creatives a space to develop and share their expertise.

Also known for his award-nominated fantasy comic book series SORGHUM & SPEAR, Dedren created an anthology-centered saga featuring African folklore and history to highlight a world of warrior women along with other Afrofutures titles.

Dedren Snead has a Bachelor of Arts from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in Global Studies and Economics and is an artist in residence at Georgia State University’s Creative Media Industries Institute in 2022-2023.

Jasmine Nicole Williams

Jasmine Nicole Williams is a Black American visual artist born and raised in Atlanta. She received her BFA in Printmaking from the University of West Georgia. Her work centers on identity and personal politics where she explores her Southern, black and femme identities.

Her Atlanta-based practice gives space for black women and girls to exist without limits. Jasmine Nicole serves on Atlanta Printmaker Studio's board of directors. She is a 2021 Midtown Alliance Heart of the Arts Resident, 2020 Hambidge Resident, 2018 SGC International Undergraduate Fellow, and recipient of the Dream Warriors Foundation's inaugural Spark Grant.

Jasmine Nicole continues her practice in Atlanta, GA.