



Artist Message

My name, Ayodele, is derived and still spoken among the Yoruba people of Nigeria.

The Yoruba, traditionally, were made up of multiple “tribes” that agreed to the rule of one king, shared border protection, economic policies and cultural perspectives. Their cultural perspectives were composed of anthropomorphic energies of nature. For example, they identified a fresh water river with very specific feminine energies to a deity by the name of Oshun (o-SHUN). This allowed the Yoruba to communicate and interact with their known world. They decoded their world based upon energies all derived from one source. This “Code” allowed the Yoruba to see “the sacred” in everything around them.

All of the children of my family were given not one but three Yoruba names at birth with the hope that we would close the circle of our fractured, enslaved origins here in the United States. I dedicate my show to my parents, grandparents and all who came before me. I celebrate the origins of my name and the tapestry of my heritage throughout my work. My ancestry and the magic of all that surrounds us is a constant, never-ending source of inspiration and purpose.

Thank you and welcome to The Femi Studio.

Enjoy.

-Ayodele
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