

## Sedrick Huckaby



Sedrick Huckaby was born in Fort Worth, Texas in 1975. His inspiration to study art in college began while participating in the Imagination Celebration's Artist Apprenticeship Program held at the Fort Worth Modern Art Museum. As a teenager, Huckaby was involved in community outreach projects such as community murals, book illustrations, and interior design projects. During his senior year of high school, the emerging young artist received numerous local awards and three national awards.

In 1995 Sedrick Huckaby began his formal art studies at Texas Wesleyan University but transferred to Boston University, where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Later he received his Master of Fine Art degree from Yale University. Both Boston University and Yale University offered Huckaby the opportunity to study under a stylistically diverse faculty, including Silvia Mangold, Catherine Murphy, John Walker, Alfred Leslie and Edgar Heap of Birds. Upon graduation Sedrick was the recipient of Yale University's Alice Kimbell English Traveling Fellowship, which he used to travel the United States and abroad to study the works of artist Henry Tanner.

While studying Henry Tanner, Sedrick was offered a fellowship with the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, which he accepted and participated in for several months. With funds from the Mortimer Hayes Brandisc Traveling Fellowship, Huckaby traveled to Europe after the Provincetown residency. He spent most of 2000 living in France, Italy and Rome studying old master works. When Huckaby returned to the United States in 2001, he was awarded the Imagination Celebration Spirit of the Future award, an Anne Giles Kimbrough Grant, an Elizabeth Greenshield award and a Best of Show award in the 20th Carroll Harris Simms National Black Arts Competition. At the end of December 2001 he received the coveted Lewis Comfort Tiffany Award.



Throughout his college studies, Huckaby was extensively involved in the study of African-American history, art and culture. He served as a board member of Yale University's Black Activities Committee and was the teacher assistant to artist Edgar Heap of Birds. These activities brought to life the importance of diversity

within the arts and in life. He says of his own work, I hope to be able to touch and influence increasingly diverse audiences with collaborative exhibitions.

Since 1996, Huckaby has exhibited his work in one-person and group shows in Boston, Massachusetts; Soho, New York; New Haven, Connecticut; Urban-Champaign, Illinois and Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. A Love Supreme, a one-person show at the African-American Museum in Dallas, Texas, marks the pinnacle of his exhibition history. It is currently showing at the African-American Museum until May 2004.



## **Art & Prayer**

### *Artist Statement*

It is indeed a strange thing to speak from ones heart without knowing the exact words to verbalize the experience. This phenomenon happens within the language of painting. A painting is a quiet dialogue in which volumes of information is slowly and silently revealed, yet its entire essence can be experienced within a moments glance. I believe my paintings are done in a language more closely in tune with my soul than the language of my tongue. For me, the act of painting is not just a means to a product; it is also a meditative process of communication. This it is with the visual language that I choose to speak about the most pressing issues of life. The resulting paintings speak about the outer world around me and the inner world within. Multifaceted works with layers of meanings are a consequence of working between the dichotomy of internal and external inspirations. If my paintings are successful they will not only speak to the viewer's intellect, but they will speak to the deeper being that lies beyond words as well. It is said that every man prays in his own language and that God understands all languages. At the end of life my greatest hope is that God is pleased with all of the prayers I left behind in the form of paintings.