

Growing up in Lagos, Nigeria there weren't many examples of African artists. No one to really map out the journey or to follow up in that field. I didn't believe that being an artist of color was a real occupation to choose. I began to learn about an artist named Ben Enwonwu in history class, although it was brief, I found their work to be striking. After moving to America as a teenager, I discovered African American history. I came across the "strangely" abstract - very detailed in storytelling - work of Jacob Lawrence and instantly was fond. He used colors and shapes so well, the harmony created the moods and tones and stories of his time. Everything I had hoped to achieve as an artist, to portray the most complicated parts of time in the simplest form of art and design. This piece is of a young Jacob Lawrence, still impressionable and motivated by the world around him, his background was poor but illustrated the beauty in whole, in such a simple way. Jacob is in a world that is a result of the contrasts of black and white but only the colors in between are the real interests for him.



Born and raised in Nigeria, moved to America in 2006 and currently based in New York. Comedian, visual artist and producer, "Ike Slimster" an alias under which he uses to explore his fields of interest from art, music, comedy to design. Ike Slimster has freelanced for about 7 years as a comedian, content creator and artist for brands and companies alike. He has grown a social following fusing all his skill sets to produce his fashion and pop culture related content on and off the internet.

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