

Jide Fresh: Digital Artist, Author, and Creative Visionary

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- **Professional Title:** Digital Artist, Author, Photographer, and Documentarian

Professional Summary

Jide Fresh, a dynamic and versatile digital artist, author, photographer, and documentarian, brings over two decades of experience in graphic design, videography, photography, web design, and sound design. My artistic journey began in the vibrant city of Louisville, where a youthful spirit of rebellion and a deep sense of social justice took root. My path in art started unconventionally during the 2001 Cincinnati uprising against police brutality, where my initial forays into design were born out of necessity — crafting signs and flyers to voice a community's outrage and hope.

This early experience laid the foundation for my artistic ethos: art as a medium of expression, healing, and transformation. I see art as a tool for personal and collective empowerment, making it accessible and participatory through innovative approaches like adult coloring books. These works are not just visual delights but vehicles for self-improvement, enabling users to be co-creators in the artistic process.

My transition into fine arts in 2021 was a turning point, marked by a personal metamorphosis through adversity. After a life-altering accident in 2018, where I became temporarily handicapped following a hit-and-run incident, I navigated a labyrinth of challenges — from physical recovery and mental health struggles to profound life changes like divorce and financial upheaval. These experiences profoundly influenced my work, culminating in the creation of an adult coloring book series that embodies themes of resilience, learning, release, and gratitude. My debut gallery exhibit, "Live Fly, Stay Fly," in October 2022, showcased this journey, resonating deeply with a global audience and marking my presence in the art world.

Today, I stand at the forefront of a burgeoning platform, expanding the boundaries of traditional art and inviting audiences to engage deeply with works that challenge, inspire, and transform. My story is one of endurance, creativity, and the relentless pursuit of art that speaks to the soul, advocates for social change, and fosters a shared experience of healing and growth.

Education

- Bachelor of Liberal Arts with a focus on African-American Studies
 - Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, Kentucky
 - Graduated: 2010

Solo Exhibitions

- "Live Fly, Stay Fly" - Portal Gallery, Louisville, Kentucky (Oct 2022 - Feb 2023)
- "Elevating to a Higher Mind" - The 86 Gallery, Cincinnati, Ohio (Nov 2023)
- "The UnCondition of the Mind" - Roh Cafe (Dec 2023 - Jan 2024)

Group Exhibitions

- "Who Don't Love Art" - Louisville (Jul 2022)
- "Black Art After Dark" - Ziegler Park, Cincinnati (Jul 2023)
- "Highs & Lows (Context) Ebbs & Flows" - R50 Studio & Gallery, Cincinnati, OH (Aug 2023)

Bibliography

My coloring books are a unique and transformative artistic journey. Each book is a canvas for self-expression, healing, and personal growth. Dive into intricate designs that reflect a fusion of diverse influences, from hip-hop to philosophy, Afrocentrism to Afrofuturism. These coloring books are more than just pages to fill with color; they are gateways to mindfulness and self-improvement. Explore captivating illustrations that tell stories of resilience, creativity, and the human experience, all while engaging in an interactive and therapeutic artistic process. Available in both English and Spanish, The coloring books are accessible to a wide audience, ensuring that everyone can embark on their own path of discovery and healing through art."

- "Weed and Zen Vol. 1"
- "Hustle and Motivate Vol. 2"
- "Bad and Bushido Vol. 3"
- "Scribble and Scrawl"
- "Hierba Y Zen Vol. 1"
- "Trabaja Duro y Motiva Vol. 2"
- "El Mal y El Bushido Vol. 3"
- "Escribe Y Garabatea"
- "Love and Lou"

Grants, Residencies, Fellowships, and Awards

- ReThink Outside Fellowship - Blue Sky Funders Forum (Aug 2021 - May 2022)
- Artist in Residence - Louisville Public Library Colliders Program (Jul 2022)
- Gamma Xi Phi - March 2023 Inductee
- Y(Our) 2040 Fellow - Zurich, Switzerland (Jun 2023)
- OurShop Recipient (Apr-Oct 2023)

Professional Experience

- Speaker at ExLearn Corporate Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio (Sep 28, 2023)
- Cincinnati Art Museum Session, College Hill, Cincinnati
- Brothers Healing Brothers, Play Cousins Collective, Louisville, KY (Mar 26, 2022)
- "Intro to Digital Art" Workshop, South Central Regional Library (Jul 7, 2022)
- Art and Entrepreneurship Session, South Central Regional Library (Jul 14, 2022)
- Color and Breath Program, South Central Regional Library (Jul 21, 2022)

Skills

Artistic Skills:

- Coloring Book Illustration
- Fine Arts (Digital Art/Mixed Media)
- Graphic Design
- Video Production (Documentarian)
- Photography
- Web Design
- Sound Design
- Afrocentric and Afrofuturistic Artistry
- Immersive Art Experiences

Technical Skills:

- Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign)
- Video Editing Software (Adobe Premiere Pro)
- Photography Editing Software (Adobe Lightroom)
- Web Design Tools (HTML, CSS)
- Sound Editing Software (Audacity)
- Art Printing Techniques
- Online Marketing and Social Media Management

Languages:

- Primary Language: English
 - Secondary Language: Spanish
 - Tertiary Language: (Learning French)
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