

PATRISSE CULLORS DEBUT SOLO EXHIBITION NOW ON VIEW UNTIL JULY 20TH

ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY CONVERSATION WITH JASMIN A. YOUNG SATURDAY, JULY 13TH, 1PM | 969 CHUNG KING ROAD

"With abolitionist aesthetics, Cullors articulates a visual language affirming protection." — Ms. Magazine

"For Patrisse Cullors, art is both vocation and salvation." — Associated Press

"[Cullors] explores Yoruba culture and the Ifá religion through Malian mud cloth textiles, cowrie shells and metalwork." — <u>Los Angeles Times</u>

"[Cullors] celebrates transformation ... inviting viewers into what she calls 'a sanctuary of reflection and empowerment."" — Los Angeles Magazine



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New York Times bestselling author, artist and abolitionist <u>Patrisse Cullors</u> recently celebrated the opening of her debut solo exhibition, *Between the Warp and Weft: Weaving Shields of Strength and Spirituality,* now on view at the Charlie James Gallery until July 20th. A deep and resonant exploration of Yoruba culture and the Ifá religion of which she is a practitioner, the exhibition is inspired by Oya, the fierce Orisha (or deity) of

transformation and Cullors' own spiritual guardian. The artist recently sat down with <u>Ms. Magazine</u> to discuss the show and its inspiration in further detail.

In support of the exhibition, Cullors will host a community conversation with **Jasmin A. Young** on **Saturday**, **July 13th at 1pm** to explore the pressing narrative of our times — the need for protection and reverence for Black women. Dr. Young is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of California Riverside whose research interests center on the intellectual history of Black women, state violence and resistance, as well as radical Black feminism. Entry to the event is free and will take place in the gallery's CJG space located at 969 Chung King Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Fusing Malian mud cloth textiles, cowrie shells and metalwork to create what Cullors refers to as "a sanctuary of reflection and empowerment," *Between the Warp and the Weft* revolves around the sword of Oya, a spiritual emblem of power, protection and divine justice. Throughout the exhibition, Cullors invites the use of artworks as spiritual guardians, creating a legacy of creative offerings that exist beyond the visual plane and become both urgent cultural commentary and spiritual armor. To this end, the artist has dedicated each piece to a different Black woman in her life to whom she wants to extend protection.



Patrisse Cullors, *Ogbe Oyeku*, dedicated to her mother, Cherice Foley. Sourced vintage Malian mudcloth, yarn, alloy steel, 37" x 21" x 3 5/16", 2024.

Courtesy of the Artist and Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles. © 2024 Patrisee Cullors; Photo © 2024 Yubo Dong, ofstudio | @ofphotostudio. Cullors' art work has been featured at cultural institutions across the country including The Broad, The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, LTD Gallery, Crystal Bridges Museum, Second Home West Hollywood, The Fowler Museum, Frieze LA, The Hammer Museum, Vashon Center for the Arts, Joe's Pub, Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center and more. Her work also will be featured as part of a major exhibition at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) this fall.

Between the Warp and Weft is now on view at the Charlie James Gallery until July 20, 2024. For more information, please contact <u>press@teampatrisse.com</u>.

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Jasmin A. Young is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Riverside. She is currently developing her manuscript, tentatively titled "Black Women and Armed Resistance, SNCC, and the Black Liberation Struggle." Dr. Young's research interests center on the intellectual history of Black women, state violence and resistance, and radical Black feminism. She is originally from Los Angeles, CA, and enjoys the beach.



Patrisse Cullors is a *New York Times* bestselling author, educator, artist, and abolitionist from Los Angeles, CA. Her work has been featured at The Broad, The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, LTD Gallery, Crystal Bridges Museum, Second Home West Hollywood, The Fowler Museum, Frieze LA, The Hammer Museum, Vashon Center for the Arts, Joe's Pub, Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, and a host of theaters, galleries, and museums across the globe.

Cullors launched a ground-breaking Social and Environmental Arts Practice MFA program at Prescott College where she served as the Founding Director for two years. She is the co-founder of the Crenshaw Dairy Mart and has been on the frontlines of abolitionist movement building with Black Lives Matter, Justice LA, Dignity and Power Now and Reform LA jails. Her current work and practice is focusing on "Abolitionist Aesthetics," a term she has advanced and popularized to help challenge artists and cultural workers to aestheticize abolition. Patrisse is also the founder of The Center For Art and Abolition – a trailblazing nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering abolitionist artists and leveraging the transformative power of art to catalyze social change.

Patrisse has won numerous awards for her art and activism. In September 2021, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Patrisse's appointment to serve as one of three Second District Arts Commissioners. Patrisse's mission is to invite all of us to grow towards abolition through intergenerational healing work that centers love, collective care, and art.