

Ja “Woke3” Tatu

# “*Sold, Soled, Souled*”

*A new series of paintings by Woke3*

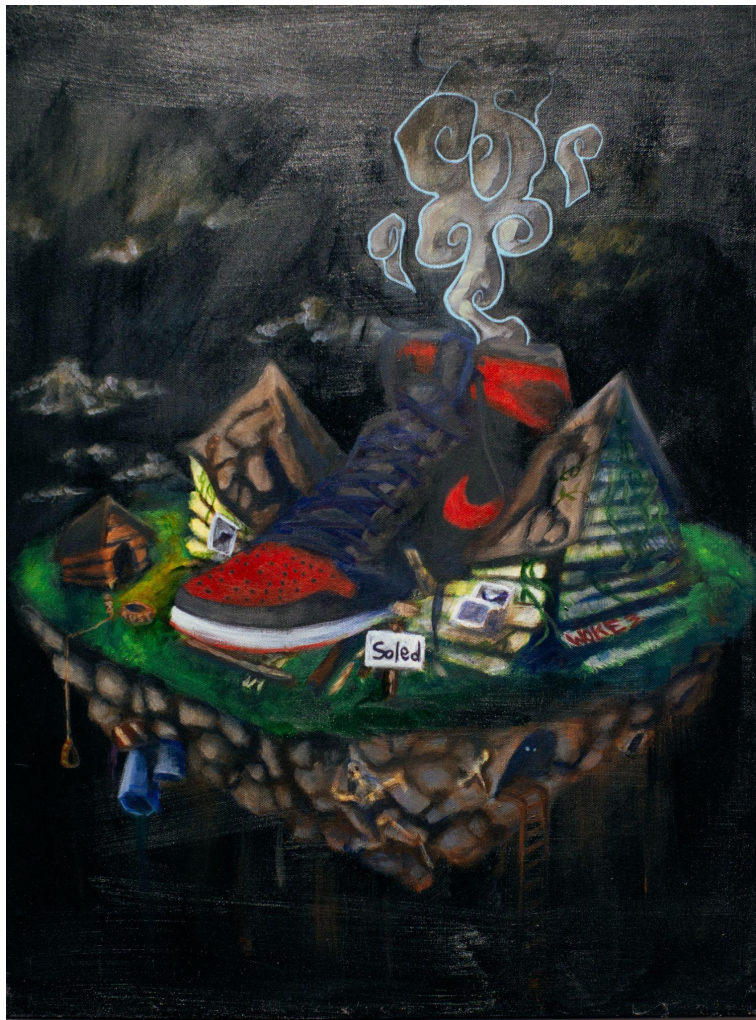


WokeThree.com



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In the "***Sold, Soled, Souled***" series, I explore housing, gentrification, and materialism through a narrative of paintings, each reflecting on identity, space, and value. The title cleverly encompasses the series' themes: the commodification of spaces such as a home ("*Sold*"), cultural impacts of neighborhood changes ("*Soled*"), and the enduring spirit of communities ("*Souled*"). Alongside rich symbolism and vibrant colors, these works critique urban development and question what we deem valuable.



## “Soled”

Acrylic on canvas

18” x 24”

2018

### **A part of a private collection**

This artwork critiques modern materialism, featuring a giant red sneaker on a floating landmass, symbolizing consumerism's allure. Below, a dog house and leash without a dog, alongside a skeleton, hint at loss and emptiness. The "Soled" sign critiques the sacrifice of home or identity for material desires. Surrounding darkness and rising smoke suggest the overshadowing of intellect and spirit by tangible goods, urging reflection on material ownership versus the value of intellectual and spiritual wealth.



“Sold”

Oil on canvas

47.75” x 41”

2017

**Price: \$1,500.00**

This painting depicts a metaphorical chess game within a dilapidated house, symbolizing urban gentrification's strategic battles. Representing opposing forces, two players sit amidst a life-sized chessboard, highlighting the competitive nature of urban development. A "COMING SOON" sign and a police officer atop a knight piece underscore authority's role in socioeconomic changes. An underground cave symbolizes community resilience against gentrification, with the shifting sky reflecting the transition from stability to uncertainty. It critiques the social dynamics of gentrification, emphasizing the tension between preservation and change.



## “Soled Too”

Acrylic on canvas

18” x 24”

2023

**Price: \$500.00**

“Soled Too” extends the critique on materialism and gentrification begun in “Soled.” It features a large sneaker overshadowing homes, symbolizing consumer culture’s impact on housing and community. The background merges green fields with a chessboard path and lego-like homes, highlighting rapid, uniform urban development. Chess pieces scattered around suggest the overshadowed lives of residents.

The “SOLED” sign reiterates themes of commercialization versus identity, against a backdrop of changing skies that reflect uncertainty and change in gentrified areas, emphasizing the struggle between progress and preservation.



## “Souled”

Acrylic on canvas

18” x 24”

2018

**Price: \$500.00**

This painting depicts a person burdened by a collapsed house on their head, symbolizing the mental strain of housing issues. One hand holds time, reflecting its value and the transient nature of community, while the other drops money, indicating the economic forces driving gentrification. The figure lies on a chessboard, hinting at the strategic games of power affecting lives. Surrounding "tall and skinny" homes represent rapid, uniform urban development, with one on fire as a metaphor for societal disruption caused by housing crises and greed. It calls for reflection on the human cost of urban progress.



## “Soled My Chain”

Acrylic on canvas

29.5” x 52.5”

2024

**Price: \$1,200.00**

This artwork portrays a figure with a house for a head, symbolizing home and the neighborhood's essence. An elder on the porch and household items convey tranquility and tradition. Fire and smoke, alongside a "Soled" sneaker, signify pressures and cultural commodification. A patrolling helicopter and urban soundscape underscore surveillance and societal control. The piece narrates the impact of gentrification and materialism on community identity, reflecting on the personal and communal significance of "being sold" in contemporary society.