Henry L. Jones is an award-winning African American artist, writer and performance artist whose work deals with the struggles of cultural and social issues. From those struggles, he discovered a healing power from his ability to create artwork. His art delves into the forces, which shape things whether social causes, spiritual connections, or community affairs. In his art, he blends experiences and images with references to African heritage and culture. His paintings are an exploration of the family ties and historical memories of the Black community. This is where he obtains his inspiration to create his art.

Jones’ art has been hung in museums, universities and galleries in the U.S. and abroad. His art is found in private and public collections. His images have been used for the covers of books and magazines. Also, the artist has won some awards and received recognitions for his work and artistic contributions. He has been featured and interviewed on TV, radio and in articles about his art and his approach.

This technique he calls Gibbing, which involves a spiritual layering of painting using his hands primarily instead of brushes. He’s able to pull from within his core to transmit the images. The many years of creating art lead Jones to this. He falls into a trance which directs the colors and figures to pull from his mind what he wants to reveal. With the direct contact of paint, he enjoys feeling the viscosity of the colors while applying them onto a surface. This excitement of Gibbing has flowed since 1991 resulting in his vibrant colors and provocative images.

Jones is a self-taught artist who is on a journey of discovery to share with the world. He has included poetry from his second book in progress with the paintings in this exhibit. He combines both of his expressions as a multi-dimensional voice to harmonize both art and writing. He’s an alumnus of Fisk University who lives and works in Nashville, Tennessee.