

Afro-Latinx Aesthetic Characteristics

- **Vibrancy-** Afro-Latin Art is created with colors, life, energy that is reflective of the people. Choices made are bold and strong. It is unapologetic and full of pride. Vibrancy is what pulls our attention and compels the audience to witness it.
- **Resistance/Revolution-** Afro-Latin Art often tells a story of battling against oppression and pushing back against political systems and practices that have kept Latinos down.
- **Public and Communal-** Afro-Latin Art often reflects communities. The work is either made in public spaces or reflects people together. The work has a history of being performed/created in public spaces so all people have access to it.
- **Bilingual/Multi-Lingual-** Afro-Latin Art often uses multiple languages. It is not translated. It just is a blend of all the languages that Afro-Latinx speak (Portuguese, Spanish, English, and indigenous languages)
- **Clear Pride of African Ancestry, Importance of Family, and Culture** Afro-Latin Artist identify as Black people and have pride in their identity as black people. Their work tends to push back against western notions of beauty and expand our understandings of who black people could be. Afro-Latin art celebrates culture, history, and ancestry through the celebration of the creator. The art allows the artist to celebrate themselves and all that they contain.
- **Musical-** The importance of music is reflected in the Afro-Latin aesthetic. Paintings often reflect instruments and dance. The music combines indigenous instruments with European horns and African performance. The music is inviting and brings people to their feet and sets a mood for the work.
- **Undefined and Expansive-** The Afro-Latin Aesthetic, like the Afro-Latin identity, is expansive and determined often by the individual artist. Understand this list as a guide, but also add to it.

