

STEVE TURNER

PRESS RELEASE



Terron Cooper Sorrells: *Dama*

May 28 – June 25, 2022

Steve Turner is pleased to present *Dama*, a solo exhibition of new complex and colorful paintings by Chicago-based Terron Cooper Sorrells that convey spirituality, culture and ritual as inspired by three African traditions from Nigeria, Ivory Coast and Mali. These traditions, whether in dance or oral tradition, all relate to the transition from life to the beyond and the endurance of the spirit. Sorrells uses the image of the sky to blend these histories and by conflating them, he aims to emphasize the diversity of the African American experience which brought together enslaved Africans from diverse origins to American plantations where stories, languages and traditions were mixed together. In so doing, he aims to celebrate the past and encourage a new sense of community.

Terron Cooper Sorrells (born 1994, Portsmouth, Virginia) graduated from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2016 where he focused on printmaking. After moving to Chicago he has steadily developed his painting practice which focuses on imagery drawn from African American history and culture. His experience as a printmaker has enabled him to develop complicated compositions that best address this subject matter.

Dama is his first solo exhibition with Steve Turner.