



A special presentation  
celebrating the art and  
legacy of self-taught  
artist James “Buddy”  
Snipes

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The public is cordially invited to “Something From Nothing” a special presentation to celebrate renowned folk artist James “Buddy” Snipes on Saturday, May 23, 2026 from 1-3 p.m. CDT at the historic Creek Stand AME Zion Church in Macon County, Alabama. The church is located on Slim Road, just off Macon County Road 10 (32° 17.492’N, 85° 29.333’W). Free admission. Sponsored by the Ridge Macon County Archaeology Project ([digtheridge.com](http://digtheridge.com)), the Alabama Folklife Association ([alabamafolklife.org](http://alabamafolklife.org)), and the Caroline Draughton Center for the Arts and Humanities ([cla.auburn.edu/cah/about-us/caroline-marshall-draughton](http://cla.auburn.edu/cah/about-us/caroline-marshall-draughton))

James “Buddy” Snipes is a self-taught artist who has deep roots in the rural village of Creek Stand, Alabama. His early following included local artists and collectors. Snipes gained “broader exposure through festivals, museum exhibitions, and galleries across the Southeast and beyond.” He is noted for taking found materials and fashioning them into uniquely imagined and inspired pieces that embody stories of family, community, and personal experience. “Something from Nothing” is both an excerpt from a quote by Snipes in which he described his artistic process and it is a testament to the striking pieces that reflect his artistic vision and talent.

Robert Finkel, presenter, is a Professor and Program Chair of Graphic Design in the Auburn University School of Industrial and Graphic Design. He is furthering his long-time study of the life and artistry of Snipes as a 2025 Cauthen Fellow of the Alabama Folklife Association and through this event. Finkel will talk in-depth about Snipes and his paintings, assemblages, and sculptures will take questions from the audience during Q&A. Immediately following the presentation, the audience will be treated to an exhibit of creations by Snipes and light refreshments.