

## Emily Moores, *Wild Whimsy*

Emily Moores investigates the interaction of playful colors and rich hand-made textures in her installation *Wild Whimsy*



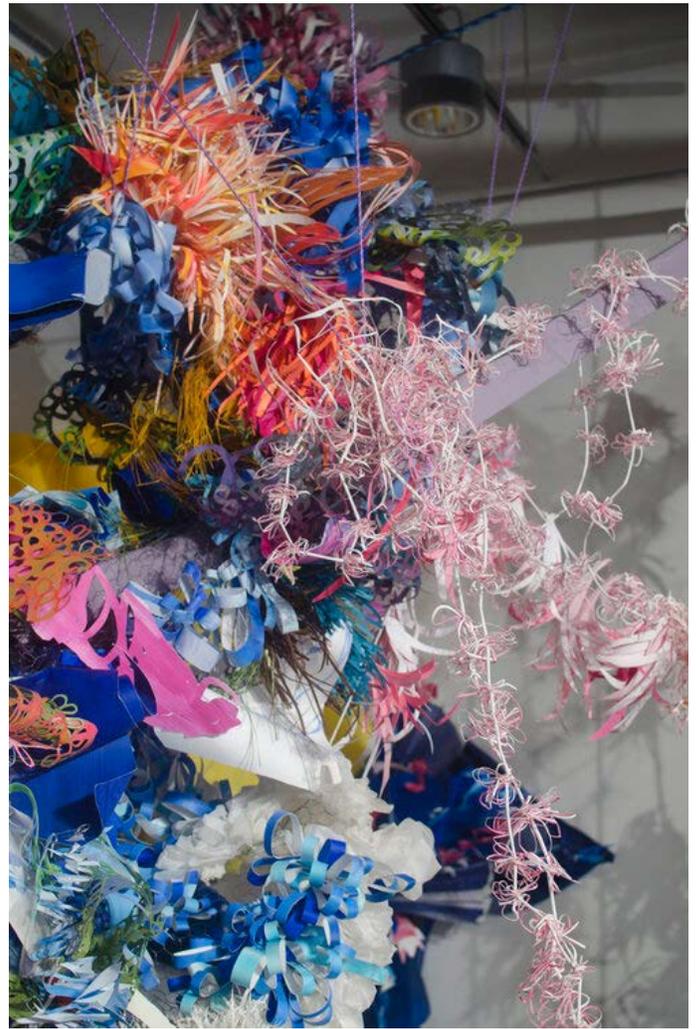
An immersive installation adorned with colorful handmade textures and patterns; *Wild Whimsy* is a celebration of play. Using richly colored, large-scale sheets of paper, and hand cut patterns across space, Moores engages both the mind and body.

*“When we look at play as a form of reducing stress and improving our memory, it’s something that’s really valuable on multiple levels.”*

Temporality is centerfold to Moores’ installation. Rather than planning each detail beforehand, Moores let the space in Ruffin guide her, like a live drawing or a

painting: *“I think especially now where a lot of artwork is viewed online, installation brings a unique experience because it’s not something that can be fully captured in a photograph; you have to physically walk through the space and experience it. For me the temporary nature of the exhibition brings viewers into the space.”*

The environment of bright blues, reds, and yellows and rich handmade textures invites movement and an engagement of the senses in the exhibition space. *Wild Whimsy* is on display in the Ruffin Gallery from August 21 to October 15. *Wild Whimsy* is the first exhibition in the Ruffin Gallery’s new Exhibition Proposal Program.



## ABOUT EMILY MOORES



Emily Moores is a visual artist living and working in Cincinnati, Ohio. Her work consists of hand-cut and ornately layered materials, which create both wall works and large-scale installations. Emily's work investigates the playful engagement of the body as essential to understanding and experiencing spaces or objects. Emily was selected as one of the Women to Watch 2020 by the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery in collaboration with the Ohio Advisory Group of the National Museum of Women in the Arts. She created 'Let's Celebrate,' a large scale installation consisting of wood, paper and fabric. Emily has shown her work regionally and nationally, including the Contemporary Arts Center (OH), the Riffe Gallery (OH), the Loudon House (KY), and the Dougherty Arts Center (TX). Emily Moores was a recipient of the Ohio Cultural Arts Individual Artist Award, the Summerfair Individual Artist Grant and the ArtPrize Seed Grant.

## **RUFFIN GALLERY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA**

Since 2008, the Ruffin Gallery is an active part of the Studio Art program. Each year the gallery hosts four to six exhibits that serve as the University's most important showcase for contemporary art and are an integral part of the Studio Art experience. Students are involved with the production and installation of these exhibitions and gain valuable experience in the handling and hanging of important works of all types. The gallery hosts a show by each year's Ruffin Distinguished Artist-in-Residence. Every spring the gallery is the site of the Fourth-Year Thesis and Aunspaugh Fellows Exhibitions. The openings are important occasions when the whole studio program gathers to celebrate the successful completion of the major. In addition to the Ruffin Gallery, student and visiting artist work is frequently shown in the RuffStuff and Media Galleries on the first floor of Ruffin Hall.

## **RUFFIN GALLERY EXHIBITION PROPOSAL PROGRAM**

Beginning with the Fall 2021 semester, the Ruffin Gallery at the University of Virginia is excited to launch the Exhibition Proposal Program to give recent MFA graduates and emerging artists making aesthetically and conceptually rigorous work a venue to showcase their work with our community. Artists whose proposals are chosen are given a solo exhibition along with a stipend to support their work.

### **ON VIEW**

August 21 - October 15

Opening Reception on August 27, 5:30 PM

Ruffin Gallery  
179 Culbreth Road  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For more content about the exhibition,  
follow the UVA Art Department on social media:

Instagram: [@UVA\\_ArtDepartment](https://www.instagram.com/UVA_ArtDepartment)

Twitter: [@Art\\_UVA](https://twitter.com/Art_UVA)

Facebook: [@UVA.Art](https://www.facebook.com/UVA.Art)

### **PRESS CONTACT**

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