

R. MERTENS

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SOLO/ TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Planned* McClean Projects for the Arts, McClean, VA
- 2025 Ciders from Mars, Karst Soundscape, Staunton, VA
- 2024 Bureau of Queer Art, Ephemeral Threads, Artsy.net
- 2023 Hangaram Museum of Design, International Fiber Art Festival, Seoul, South Korea
- 2021 Hunter Gallery, Archeology of the Body, Staunton, VA
- 2018 Smith House Gallery; Mealy-mouth Dexterity, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2016 Arlington Arts Center; Spring Solos, Arlington, VA
- 2015 Margaret Martin Gehman Gallery; Mediations and Premonitions, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2015 Truman State University; Nothing from Something, Kirksville, MO;
- 2015 Old Cabell Hall, University of Virginia, R. Mertens New Works, Charlottesville, VA
- 2013 Wave Gallery; A Tale of Conductance, Eugene, OR
- 2013 Woodpeckers Muse Gallery; Masks and Masking, Eugene, OR
- 2010 Le Toilettés Gallery; Whirlpool, Eugene, OR
- 2010 Washburn Gallery, Post-Apocalyptic Sacra, Eugene, OR
- 2008 G2, Tethered #2, Chicago, IL
- 2007 Siragusa Gallery, Tethered #1, Chicago, IL

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Columbia Museum of Art, Body Matters, Columbia, SC
- 2026 Willam Scofield Gallery, Black and White, Vancouver, WA
- 2026 Vestibule Gallery, Decay, Seattle, WA
- 2026 Virginia Quilt Museum, No Boundaries, Dayton, VA
- 2026 Arts Council of the Valley, Likeness, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2026 Staunton Augusta Art Center, 65 Year Anniversary, Staunton, VA
- 2025 Atlantic Gallery, Lust for Rust, New York, NY
- 2025 LA Artcore, Crafting Tomorrow, Los Angeles, CA
- 2025 Duke Hall Gallery of Art, Faculty Exhibition, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2025 Greenville Museum of Art, Archiving Place, Greenville, NC
- 2025 Core Art Space, Fiber Art; Embracing the Craft, Denver, CO
- 2024 Staunton Augusta Art Center, Emerging Artists, Staunton, VA
- 2024 Exhibitzone, Existence: Birth/Life/Death, Online Exhibition
- 2024 Gallerium Art, Gallerium Art Prize 2024, Online Exhibition
- 2024 Wilson Arts, 2024 National Juried Exhibition, Wilson, NC
- 2023 Arts Council Fayetteville, Material World, Fayetteville, NC
- 2023 Darrin-McHone Gallery; In Conversation, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2023 Ridderhof Martin Gallery, Collective Efforts; Fredricksburg, VA
- 2022 Trawick Award; Gallery B, 2nd Place Award; Bethesda, MD
- 2020 Praxis Gallery; Digital Garden, Cleveland, OH
- 2019 Traveling SEFEA Exhibition; In Flux, East Tennessee State University, Karlota Gallery, TN Marshall University, WV; Berea College KY; JMU, VA; Elon University, NC

2019 Artspace; Collective Efforts, Richmond, VA
2018 Praxis Fiber Workshop; By Way of the Matrix, Cleveland, OH
2018 Crooked Tree Arts Center; HandnHand: Craft and New Technologies, Traverse City, MI
2018 Cleo Driver Miller Art Gallery; In the Round 4, Bridgewater, VA
2018 New Image Gallery; Project Culloowhee; Harrisonburg, VA
2017 Wyche Gallery; New Conversations, Whiteville, NC
2017 Sadie A. Hartzler Library; In the Round 3, Harrisonburg, VA
2017 Harry Wood Gallery; Mechanization, Material & the Matrix, Tempe, AR
2017 SEAD Gallery; Intersections, Houston, TX
2016 Museum of Contemporary Craft; CARPA, Portland, OR
2016 Dennon Museum Center; Extreme Fibers, Traverse City, MI
2016 Darrin-McHone Gallery; IN the Round 2, Harrisonburg, VA
2016 Museum of Contemporary Art; New Waves, Virginia Beach, VA
2016 SNAG Conference; Exhibition in Motion, Asheville, NC
2015 Duke Hall Gallery; JMU Faculty Exhibition, Harrisonburg, VA
2015 The Little Gallery Underground; Music Without Sound, Harrisonburg, VA
2015 Ann Arbor Art Center; Tech+Art, *First Prize Winner*, Ann Arbor, MI
2015 Muskegon Art Museum; Extreme Fibers, Muskegon, MI
2015 Darrin-McHone Gallery; IN the Round, Harrisonburg, VA
2015 Open Grounds; Inertia TBA (TimeBasedArts), Charlottesville, VA
2014 Scythia Arts Center; Fibremen Four, Kherson, Ukraine
2014 Northwestern Technical College, Digital Media Festival, Green Bay, WI
2012 Bellevue Art Museum, High Fiber Diet, Bellevue, WA
2012 Disjecta Gallery, Self-Calibration, Portland, OR
2012 Blackfish Gallery, 17th Annual Graduates Exhibition, Portland, OR
2011 Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, Forest of Repair, Eugene, OR
2011 Winnipeg Folk Festival, Outdoor Exhibition, Winnipeg, Canada
2011 Fitton Center for Creative Arts, Undercurrents, Hamilton, OH
2011 Redoux Parlour, Collaborative Projects, Eugene, OR
2011 Art Center Gallery, 2011 Coastal Fiber Arts Exhibit, Astoria, OR
2011 Opus VII, Designing Sound, Eugene, OR
2011 Laverne Krause Galler, Materiality, Eugene, OR
2010 Beal Hall, Audio Visual Performance, Eugene, OR
2009 Freeark Gallery, Needles & Pins, Riverside, IL
2009 Winnipeg Folk Festival, Outdoor Exhibition, Winnipeg, Canada
2009 Orleans Street Gallery, (Inter) Action, St. Charles, IL
2009 Neville Public Museum, Studio 210 Artists of 08, Green Bay, WI
2008 Flat Iron Building, SmART Show, Chicago, IL
2008 CTA Orange Line, Art on Track, Chicago, IL
2008 Neville Public Museum, Art and the Animal, Green Bay, WI

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

- 2025 Freshwater Hymns, Indira Allegra, Duke Hall Gallery of Art, Curator; Harrisonburg, VA
- 2019 In Flux, Traveling SEFEA Exhibition, Co-Curator, East Tennessee State University, Karlota Gallery, TN Marshall University, WV; Berea College KY; James Madison University, VA
- 2016 Harmonic Laboratory, Duke Hall Gallery; Curator, Harrisonburg, VA
Fiber Art, Duke Hall Gallery; Curator, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2015 Modular Projects Space, Residency/Gallery Director, Harrisonburg, VA
KinAesthetic Exhibition, Curator, Spitzer House, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2011 Le Toilettes Gallery, Gallery Director, Eugene, OR
- 2007 Siragusa Gallery, Gallery Director, Chicago, IL

RESIDENCIES

- 2025 Atelier Artist in Residence; Westcove, Ireland
Cill Rialaig Arts Centre Residency, Ballinskelligs, Ireland
- 2024 Staunton Augusta Art Center; Staunton, VA
- 2019 The Digital Jacquard Center; Hendersonville, NC
- 2018 Western Carolina University Department of Art AIR program; Cullowhee, NC
The Utah Museum of Contemporary Art AIR program; Salt Lake City, UT
The Digital Jacquard Center; Hendersonville, NC
- 2016 Amano Pre-Columbian Textile Museum; Lima, Peru
- 2013 Camp CARPA, Joshua Tree, CA
Eugene Contemporary Arts, Public Process Residency; Eugene, OR
Apulaya Center for Andean Culture; Calca, Peru.
Centro de Textiles Tradicionales del Cusco; Cusco, Peru
- 2011 543 Artist Residency; Eugene, OR
- 2008 Neville Public Museum, Studio 210 Working Regional Artist, Green Bay, WI

PUBLICATIONS

- 2025 "Friends of Fibers" Surface Design Journal
"First Person" Surface Design Journal
"Crafting Tomorrow" Surface Design Journal
- 2024 "Ephemeral Threads" Bureau of Queer Art: Queer and Allied Arts, Vol. 5
"Robert Mertens" Marquis Who's Who
- 2018 "Cosmology in Repeat" Surface Design Journal
"Scanning the Field" Surface Design Journal Blog
- 2016 "So to Speak" Online Feminist Magazine
- 2015 "First Person" Surface Design Journal
- 2013 "Camp CARPA: Craftivism in the Desert" Surface Design Journal "Gallery At a Glance"
Eugene Magazine
- 2012 "Function" Composite Magazine

PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 Visiting Lecturer, American University, DC
- 2025 Textile Talks, Studio Art Quilts Association, Online
- 2024 Bureau of Queer Art, Efimero, Season 5, Online
- 2023 School of the Museum of Fine Art, Tufts, Guest Artist lecture, Boston, MA
- 2018 Institute for Visual Studies; Colloquium Presenter, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2018 Midwestern Fiber Arts Education Network, Presenter, Green Bay, W
- 2017 Southeastern Fiber Arts Educations Association, Presenter, Penland, NC
- 2015 National Women's Studies Association Conference; Panelist, Milwaukee, WI
- 2012 The School of the Art Institute of Chicago; Guest Artist lecture, Chicago, IL
- 2011 University of Oregon; Art History Association Symposium, Eugene, OR
University of Oregon, Graduate Student Research Forum, Eugene, OR

GRANTS / AWARDS

- 2025 James Madison University Summer Research Grant
- 2024 James Madison University Faculty Educational Leave
- 2023 James Madison University Faculty Research Award
- 2023 James Madison University, Outstanding Student Mentor Award
- 2022 Virginia Museum of Fine Art Fellowship
- 2022 Trawick Prize (2nd Place)
- 2021 James Madison University Summer Research Grant
- 2018 James Madison University, "Make Your Next Move" Award
- 2016 James Madison University, Summer Research/Creative Activity Grant
- 2016 James Madison University, Office of International Affairs Study Abroad Grant
- 2013 Emergency Grant from the Foundation for Contemporary Art

EDUCATION

- M.F.A. The University of Oregon, Eugene, OR.
- B.F.A. The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- Certificates NWTC, Audio Engineering. Green Bay, WI.
Apulaya Center for Andean Culture, Weaving. Calca, Peru.
Study Abroad Burren College of Art, Newton Castle, Ireland.