

Sarah Beth Woods is a Chicago-based multidisciplinary artist. Woods' background as a painter and critical cultural worker led to an interest in the aesthetics and political implications of modern surfaces and the body, specifically skin and hair, saturated color and shine. Cultural influences derived from formative years spent on the Southwest side of Chicago continue to manifest in the content and aesthetics of Woods' work, specifically black material culture and women's conceptual spaces as sites of possibility and transformation.

Woods earned her BFA at Northern Illinois University and MFA at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. Her work has been included in shows at the University of Michigan's Work: Detroit space, UICA, Grand Rapids, MI, Kent State University Museum, Girls Club, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, A.I.R gallery in Brooklyn, New York, University of Massachusetts, Boston, the Bob & Roberta Smith Kunstverein at Coventry University, Coventry England, NYU Florence, Florence Italy, Genesis Cinema, London, CICA Museum, Gimpo-si South Korea and in Chicago at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Western Exhibitions, Hyde Park Art Center, The Franklin, Jane Addams Hull House Museum, South Side Community Art Center, Threewalls, Arts Incubator, and Woman Made Gallery.

Newcity Magazine named her one of the top 5 Subversively Conceptual Crafters in Chicago in 2014. Woods and Fatimata Traore, a professional hair braider are the recipients of the 2015/2016 Crossing Boundaries Prize through Arts+Public Life & Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture at the University of Chicago for their collaboration, BRAID/WORK. Woods is a 2017 3arts 3AP Awardee, which supports Hear the Glow of Electric Lights, a film project investigating 1960s American music groups featuring teenage girls and young women.