

Madera E. Rogers-Henry BIOGRAPHY

Madera E. Rogers-Henry is a self-taught artist, born in El Paso, Texas in 1958. Her work is truly remarkable as she uses collage art intertwined with 3-D and mixed media to incorporate recycled materials to create large-scale canvases, masks, paper dresses, jewelry, and hand fans. She draws inspiration from her global perspective of living life in countries such as Montreal, Quebec, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and Stuttgart, Germany. Adding cities such as Denver, and Brooklyn allow her to experience the rich African influences within each locale. New Orleans parade culture provides an infusion of celebration to expand the range of artwork to include costumes, masks, and mini floats. The use of natural colors sourced from magazines, tissue paper, cardboard packaging, and newspapers is simply captivating.

Each completed artwork tells a story of recycling materials that are diverted from landfills. There's a celebration to honor the human experience. Her commitment to environmentalism, and how she integrates performing arts and visual art to bring her imagination to life. Rogers-Henry's art is not only visually stunning but also carries important messages of sustainability, cultural preservation, and diversity. Her work reflects her deep understanding of the interconnectedness between art, nature, and community. She inspires others to thrive through dynamic collaborations, community initiatives, and dedication to creating a more sustainable world. For the past ten years, the former integrated – art teacher, calls New Orleans home.

Returning to being an emerging artist of fourteen years. She allows her environment to fine-tune her artistic repertoire which extends beyond traditional mediums to include large-scale paper & fiber canvasses utilizing paints, fibers, and recycled items. Rogers-Henry's dedication to incorporating recycled materials into her artistic creations has garnered attention from private collectors in the New Orleans area.

From April 2023 to September 2023, St. Roch Market on St. Claude Avenue served as a showroom, a crafting and recycling station for Rogers-Henry's artwork, showcasing her commitment to sustainability. During this time, the station also featured recycled hats from the Milliners Association of Nigeria, adding an international element to the display. In 2022, Rogers-Henry's krewe of artists and youth participated in "The Green Beans Krewe" walking parade for Lundi Gras, wearing costumes made from recycled newspapers to showcase her commitment to sustainability. Rogers-Henry's artwork has been featured in various exhibitions and collaborations. For March 2022, her collaborative efforts with her team of artists and her paper jewelry were purchased and featured in the JAMNOLA gift shop, providing an opportunity for a wider audience. In 2018, six large-scale hand fans were prominently displayed at the New Orleans Art Center, showcasing the talent and creativity of Rogers-Henry's unique art. In 2019, St. Roch Market was once again the venue for a collaborative show, featuring artists from REFOCUS and recycle artists, providing a platform for diverse artistic expressions.

Overall, Rogers-Henry's engagement with different spaces and communities highlights her dedication to promoting sustainable artistic practices and fostering appreciation for recycling.

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