

MARIA ZAMORA

Seattle, Washington

zamuramaria@gmail.com

www.zamuramaria.com

Instagram: @zamuramaria

Artist Statement

Maria Zamora is an interdisciplinary visual artist who received her BA with Honors from University of Washington in 2020. Maria finds joy experimenting with different mediums such as screen printing, painting, and design, collaging together different subjects, elements, and textures into colorful pieces. While expanding her practice in arts, Maria explored the world of textile design as a screen printing apprentice at the Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia.

Primarily using 2D art forms to celebrate her cultural background and the natural world, Maria also uses her art to raise viewers' awareness about the ongoing crisis in her home country, Venezuela.

Maria believes that art needs to be easily accessible to the members of our community. Her appreciation for the power that the arts have to tell stories, educate and call for reflection led her to connect with Seattle nonprofits Northwest Film Forum and Coyote Central where she works teaching screen printing workshops and youth classes.

Artist Bio

Maria was born in Mérida, Venezuela, home of an extraordinarily diverse fauna and flora. The megadiverse Venezuelan landscape became her main source of inspiration when she began studying Visual Arts at Universidad de Los Andes (Mérida) in 2015.

Because of Venezuela's worsening socioeconomic and political crisis, Maria ended up moving to Seattle in 2017 to continue her studies, earning a BA with Honors in Interdisciplinary Visual Arts from the University of Washington. During her time at the UW, Maria developed a series of work raising awareness about the humanitarian crisis in Venezuela that led her, and millions of other Venezuelans, to migrate – an unprecedented event in Latin America for a country with no war.

Through her art, Maria also explores different ways to connect with her home country from afar, taking a break from creating what could be described as political art and instead choosing to remember Venezuela for other things, such as its playful culture and its unique vegetation. This approach allows her to find different ways to reconnect with her roots while also learning to bridge the realities of two very different countries.

With a range of bright and contrasting colors, Maria began to create energetic technicolor collage-like paintings. These paintings are recreations of surreal landscapes that exaggerate and combine elements of the Venezuelan tropical flora and fauna. One of these paintings, titled *Nature Intervenes* is currently included in the BIMA Spotlight Summer Exhibition.

While expanding her interdisciplinary practice in screen printing and textile design, Maria participated in a Summer Apprenticeship Program at the Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia (2022). During this program she created two large scale repeat pattern designs, each hand screen printed on 8 yards of fabric. Both of these yardages were also reimagined landscapes that merged together elements from Venezuela, Seattle, and Philadelphia.

In Seattle, Maria shares her passion for art with others, teaching Screen Printing classes to youth at Coyote Central, and hosting pop up screen printing workshops during festivals at Northwest Film Forum.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Coyote Central: *Teaching Artist Seattle, WA (Present)*

Northwest Film Forum: *Patron Services Manager Seattle, WA (Present)*

EDUCATION

Apprentice Training Program : *Fabric Workshop and Museum - Philadelphia, PA 2022*

BA, Interdisciplinary Visual Arts - Summa Cum Laude with Honors.
University of Washington - 2020

Completed Associate of Arts - AA. *Seattle Central College - 2018*
Universidad de Los Andes - Mérida, Venezuela
(2015 - 2016): Completed college-level courses in Visual Arts

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Seattle Print Arts at Pratt Fine Arts Center: *Studio Maintenance, Seattle WA (Present)*

AWARDS

Mary Violet Ferguson Art School Scholarship Recipient (2019)

EXHIBITIONS

Leading A Colorful Life (2023): *Hot Bed Gallery, PA*

PARTIES Artshow (2023): *Centro Cultural Mexicano, WA*

Capitol Hill Art Walk (2023): *Lifelong Thrift, WA*

Backyard (2022): *A Space Inside, WA*

Luster (2022): *Lilith Pole Dance, WA*

On Repeat (2022): *Side Street Gallery, PA*

To a Green Thought in a Green Shade (2022): *Da Vinci Art Alliance, PA*

Venezuelan Art Fair II Edition (2021): *One Art Space, NYC*

Hispanic Heritage Month (2021): *Centro Cultural Mexicano, WA*

"A world becoming with" (2020): *Jacob Lawrence Gallery. University of Washington, WA*

Online Graduation Exhibition

PRESS

Fabulous Washington, Feb 28, 2023

Fabulous People: Maria Zamora

NW NEWS, Madysen McLain, Sep 23, 2021.

Local nonprofit uses art to celebrate Hispanic heritage



Maria Zamora in her home studio



Summer Apprenticeship at Fabric Workshop Museum (Philadelphia, 2022)



Pop Up Screen Printing Workshop for Cadence Video Poetry Festival at Northwest Film Forum (Seattle, 2023)