

# MARÍA RAYA

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## EDUCATION

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### School of Visual Arts, NYC

Advertising Continuing Education Course (Focus on Art Direction)

*Jan 2025-April 2025*

### University of Florida

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting

*Aug 2020-May 2024*

*GPA 3.91 Summa cum Laude*

### Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London

Summer Contemporary Fine Art Course

*July 2023*

## EXPERIENCE

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### Gallery Intern, Ruiz-Healy Art, NYC

*Sep 2024-Dec 2024*

- Planned and executed exhibition logistics from inception to opening, facilitating seamless collaboration between artists and gallery team.
- Managed client relations and sales operations, drafting sales materials to engage collectors, promote artworks, and build lasting connections within the art community.
- Supported gallery communications through press release development and social media content creation.

### Gallery Intern, 4Most Gallery, Gainesville, FL

*Nov 2023-Jun 2024*

- Developed a strong digital presence through engaging social media content and strategy.
- Supported exhibition planning and execution, including installation coordination.
- Managed daily gallery operations while ensuring quality visitor experience.

### Graphic Designer, Center for African Studies, UF

*Dec 2022-Jun 2023*

- Established cohesive visual identity through thoughtful branding design solutions that aligned with organizational values.
- Coordinated social media presence and content strategy across multiple platforms.
- Served as the Lead Graphic Designer for the 2023 Gwendolen M. Carter Conference editorial program, directing visual design and layout.

## INVOLVEMENT

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### Research Committee Member, College of the Arts, UF

*Aug 2023-May 2024*

- Selected as the sole undergraduate representative from the School of Art + Art History, evaluating research funding proposals alongside faculty.
- Advised the Associate Dean of Research and Strategic Initiatives (Dr. Sophia Krzys-Acord) and COTA Proposal Studio on sponsored research protocols resources.
- Contributed valuable student insights to inform resource allocation decisions.

### Student Ambassador, School of Art and Art History, UF

*Sep 2022-May 2024*

- Lead tours of ~30 prospective students and guests through the School of Art and Art History facilities and equipment.
- Founded a mentorship program for freshman students to form a more inclusive community.
- Organized community-building events to foster connection within the art school.

### Graphic Designer, Geleé Magazine

*Dec 2020-Dec 2021*

- Designed editorial content aligned with the magazine's avant-garde aesthetic.
- Developed visual direction for website and social media platforms.
- Created cohesive design materials that supported the magazine's creative vision.

## PRESS

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*2024 SEVEN Magazine, Issue 02, Digital Features*

## AWARDS

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*2023 Sarah and Kenneth Kerslake Award Recipient*

## SOFTWARE

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MS Office  
Google Workspace  
Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Premiere Pro)  
Figma  
Cargo Site  
WordPress  
Mailchimp