

# RHEA ECKENROD

Designer

## ABOUT

Designer based in Austin with a penchant for all things visual.

My work comes from different creative processes. Often, these begin after writing something down or waking up with a vivid memory of a dream. Everyday life also serves as a trigger and inspiration might strike during travel, through an unexpected conversation, or sometimes, for no apparent particular reason at all.

## SKILLS

<b>Soft</b>	Creative adaptability, Resourcefulness, Attention to detail, Collaboration, Art Direction, Mentoring, Time Management
<b>Tech</b>	Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, CLO 3D, Capture One, Figma, Blender, Rhino, Google Suite, Microsoft Suite.
<b>Design</b>	Flat Sketching, Technical Drawing, Tech Packs/Templates, Color Analysis, Pattern/Motif Development, Illustration (digital & hand), Garment Construction (woven & knit)

## INFO

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## EDUCATION

**University of Texas at Austin** August 2021- May 2025

- BS Textiles & Apparel \_ Focus in Design
  - Minor in Architectural Studies
  - BDP Certificate in Museum Studies
  - Dean's List, 6 semesters

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### CAD Teaching Assistant

The University of Texas — August 2024 - May 2025

- Supported students in developing technical fluency in CAD such as Illustrator, Photoshop, & InDesign with an emphasis on precision and quality to prepare manufacturable designs.
- Offered feedback that balanced technical accuracy with creative expression, helping students strengthen their design clarity and presentation.
- Streamlined workflows by modeling efficient file organization and rendering techniques.

### Digital Collections and Archiving Intern

Dolph Briscoe Center for American History - September 2023 - July 2024

- Digitized and cataloged large archival collections, building organized systems for images and text that prioritized accuracy, consistency, and long-term accessibility.
- Independently designed and managed the entire organizational system for UT's Commemoration Initiative, maintaining the timeline and overseeing every stage of the process from start to finish..
- Crafted detailed metadata for text and image records using archival databases, collaborating with researchers to align entries with institutional standards and project-specific goals.

### Studio Production Assistant

DASHE — April 2024 - Present

- Assisted the designer in all stages of garment production, including ideation, product development, hands on sewing, and public facing campaigns and narratives.
- Developed and organized print visuals for the brand's Metanoia show, assisting in art direction, storytelling, and the creation of marketing decks that aligned with the show's themes and aesthetic.
- Supported fast-paced production environments, including backstage runway coordination, monthly made to order client commissions, and preparing assests for output and final production.

### Lead Mentor

UT Freshman Research Initiative — January 2025 - Present

- Directed day-to-day operations of the lab and supervised and trained a cohort of student researchers in biomaterials projects, providing leadership in experimental design.
- Guided students through design and material challenges by translating complex scientific methods into approachable design processes
- Coordinated project timelines to keep student research on track, ensuring steady progress while maintaining accuracy and safety in the lab.
- Conceptualized new experimental frameworks and proposed research directions that expanded the scope of projects, emphasizing sustainability and material innovation.
- Monitored lab inventory and restocked critical supplies, maintaining a functional and safe lab environment.

## SHOWS/EXHIBITONS

**DASHE F/W 2025 "Metanoia"** December 2024

- Managed backstage coordination, styling, and model prep for the runway show.

**Particles of Color Exhibition** September 2023 - Ongoing

- Lead researcher in the development of biodegradable sequins; co-organized a museum exhibition highlighting design, sustainability, and material innovation.