

## RENÉE PARKER

**MULTIMEDIA ARTIST** 

## **ARTIST STATEMENT**

"... there is nothing new under the sun."
Artists everywhere: challenge accepted.

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If there is one common denominator among artists, it is that we are up for a challenge. Creative work evolves through trial, error, and repetition. And artists are either magicians, mutants, or conduits of a greater force. OR all of the above. Whatever the case, I identify as a multimedia/multidisciplinary artist, who can more and more frequently harness and share something unique.

I've been a creator my entire life. My first love was drawing, but I went on to accumulate a passion for creating in other ways, too. I am mostly self-taught with a few years of art college under my belt. I created my first professional work in high school when I sold custom portraits. My love for drawing and painting continued along with my growing love of sculpting.

In art college (my first formal education), I was introduced to sculpting with found and salvaged materials, which, unlike clay, were available in abundance and at low or no cost. They were also piling up with limited places to go. That same year (around 1993) I rediscovered paper mache as a sculpting medium. I spent the next 30 years experimenting with paper sculpture. I learned its properties, how to make it perform similarly to clay, and to go beyond the potential of materials like clay, plaster, wood, and more. Because of its qualities of durability, sustainability, and limitless creative potential, I was hooked.

While I continue my multi-disciplinary work, paper sculpture is my specialty. As of today, I've created everything from jewelry and accessories to home decor and art objects in paper and paper mache. I've been commissioned to create items ranging from props for a theater in London, to a giant paper mountain for a display at a spiritual retreat. The possibilities are endless. I love pushing the limits with paper and I enjoy the interaction of others with my work, especially once they learn that it's paper.

It's possible in paper.