

Donna Ruff was born in Chicago, grew up in Miami Beach, and returned to the Miami area in 2015 after living in New York, and Santa Fe, NM. She earned an MFA from Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, in 2000. She combines a social justice practice with her work, which is focused on current news stories, using images and text from newspapers and historical documents. Selected solo exhibitions include "utopia," 2020, and "Based on a True Story," 2023, both at Jack Fischer Gallery, San Francisco; "Extraño," Laundromat Art Space, Miami, 2019; and "Migrant Series," 2017, and "The Subject is Its Own Importance," 2020, Rick Wester Fine Art, New York. Selected group exhibitions include "Spheres of Meaning," Philip and Patricia Frost Museum of Art, Miami, 2019; Florida Biennial, Hollywood Arts and Culture Center, Hollywood, FL, 2018; and "Times," Flag Foundation, New York, 2017. Her work is in the collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Morgan Library, New Mexico Museum of Art, and the Yale Art Gallery among others. She was awarded a residency at the Deering Estate in 2019. Other residencies include the Santa Fe Art Institute, 2008-2009, and the Vermont Studio Center in 1997. She is a 2021 Pollock Krasner Foundation grantee and received an Ellies Creator grant from Oolite Arts, Miami, in 2021.