

# Saya Woolfalk

Richard Levy Gallery  
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**Saya Woolfalk**

*Cannabis*, 2021

Dye sublimation print on cotton/  
linen blend with cotton  
embroidery floss, feathers, and  
plastic, metal, and glass beads

40 x 21 x 1.75 inches

101.6 x 53.3 x 4.4 cm

**\$15,000**



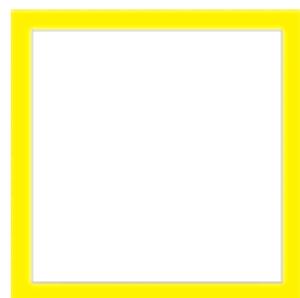
**Saya Woolfalk** (b. 1979) blends historical information with science fiction and fantasy. Her interdisciplinary practice includes installation, video, painting, digital collage, textiles, and more. In her ongoing series *The Empathics*, she creates a new world with a fictional race of women who become human-plant hybrids. Every new body of work is like a new chapter in the series. During Woolfalk's recent residency at the Newark Museum of Art, she began to study the museum's plant collection through the perspective of the *Empathics*. This archeological-style investigation examines these medicinal plants and their relationship to American identity from an outsider's perspective.

Saya Woolfalk has exhibited her work internationally, including solo exhibitions at Montclair Art Museum in New Jersey; the Chrysler Museum of Art in Virginia; the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco; SCAD Museum in Georgia; Everson Museum of Art in New York; Sheldon Museum of Art in Nebraska; and the Mead Museum of Art in Massachusetts, among many others. Her works are in major collections like the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Mead Art Museum, the Weatherspoon Art Museum, the Newark Museum of Art, the Chrysler Museum of Art, and the Seattle Art Museum. Woolfalk has received several prestigious awards, including the Fulbright Grant, Joan Mitchell Foundation MFA Grant, and a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship. In 2019 she presented a [TED X talk](#). Woolfalk lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

**Saya Woolfalk's work is currently on exhibition at the Newark Museum of Art through December 31, 2022.**



*My current work is focused on the meanings of different kinds of hybridity. In part, this project developed out of my own experience as a black, white, and Japanese American woman. But it also emerges from my broader interest in exploring how hybridities (of cultures, races, and ethnicities; humans and machines; etc.) are becoming more apparent, but also more fraught and confounding in American society. My ongoing science fiction inspired project, *The Empathics*, is about fictional humans who physically and culturally metamorphose as they merge identities and cross species, taking on characteristics of various cultures while becoming a fusion of animal and plant. The material culture and biology of *The Empathics* is the synthesis of diverse sources. – Saya Woolfalk*



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