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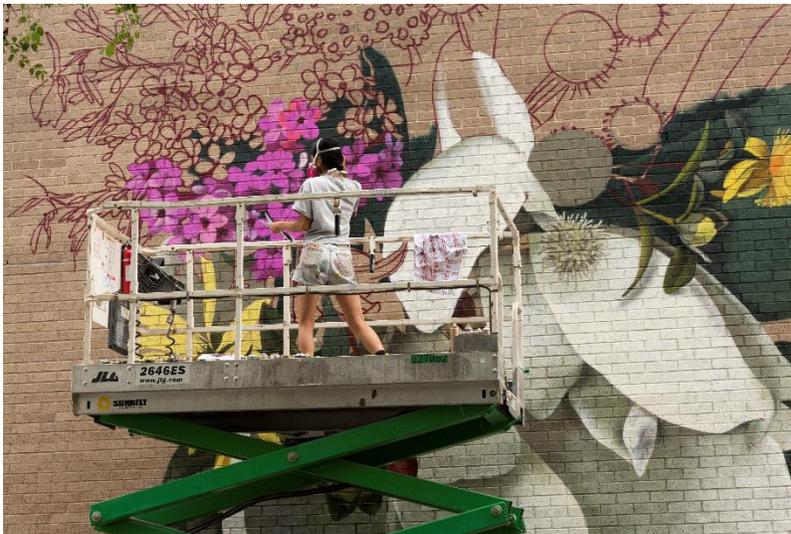
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## **North Carolina Museum of Art Installs Floral Murals on Its Campus and in Downtown Raleigh to Celebrate Special Exhibition**

*Detroit-based artist Louise Jones's designs add color, interest to buildings before opening of The Beyond: Georgia O'Keeffe and Contemporary Art*

**Raleigh, N.C.**—The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) hosted Detroit-based artist [Louise Jones](#), also known as Ouizi, to install a giant floral mural on the side of its East Building as part of the exhibition *The Beyond: Georgia O'Keeffe and Contemporary Art*, opening October 13, 2018. A second mural, on the side of [Benchmark Autoworks](#) in Raleigh's Warehouse District at the intersection of Davie and Dawson streets, was also installed to promote the special exhibition. The downtown location is also the site of the Museum's October First Friday event, October 5, from 6 to 9 pm, featuring mural wall portraits by local photographer Eric Krouse, free flowers, and more.

"Thank you, Raleigh and NCMA, for inviting me to make work in your city," said artist Louise Jones. "May it be a positive force and encourage everyone to blossom in their own way."



The mural at the NCMA, titled *Summer's Where You'll Find Me*, is one of more than 50 contemporary works of art in *The Beyond*. Alongside more than 30 works by Georgia O'Keeffe, *The Beyond* features works by contemporary artists including Jones, [Anna Valdez](#), [Mark Lewis](#), and [Britny Wainwright](#) that evoke and expand upon O'Keeffe's innovative artistic language. The contemporary artists were selected for their individual approaches to O'Keeffe's powerful themes, including flowers, bodies, still lifes, cities and deserts, and the interplay between realism and

abstraction. The exhibition introduces audiences to a new generation of American artists, providing a fresh look at O'Keeffe through the lens of contemporary art.

Jones visited the NCMA in July to gather flowers and other natural materials from the Museum Park as inspiration for her site-specific mural: St. John's wort, southern magnolia, black-eyed Susans, cup plants, and swamp milkweed, among others. It took her four days to create the mural, spray painting and painting by hand. The finished mural measures 24 feet wide and 48 feet tall. Jones then completed the downtown mural, *Indian Summer*, inspired by a book of botanical prints, in two days. The downtown installation was a collaboration with Benchmark Autoworks and [Raleigh Murals Project](#).

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“Louise Jones’s monumental flower murals explore color, form, and pattern found in nature,” said Linda Dougherty, the NCMA’s chief curator and curator of contemporary art. “Like Georgia O’Keeffe, Jones reimagines flowers on a massive scale, making you look more closely than you would if they had been painted life size, and reminding us of the undeniable beauty of the natural world.” Dougherty added, “Jones’s vibrantly colorful mural of a gigantic bouquet, *Summer’s Where You’ll Find Me*, is inspired by flowers found in the Museum Park, including the southern magnolia, and is a great addition to the NCMA campus.”



*The Beyond* is ticketed with [Candida Höfer in Mexico](#), an exhibition of 25 large-scale “portraits” of magnificent interiors of libraries, convents, theaters, churches, and museums throughout Mexico.

*The Beyond* will be celebrated in an [opening event](#) Wednesday, October 10, starting at 7 pm. Attendees can enjoy light hors d’oeuvres, beer, wine, prickly-pear margaritas, and a vinyl playlist curated and spun by [H. C. McEntire of Merge Records](#).

Louise Jones plans to return to the Museum in January 2019 for an Artist-in-Residence weekend related to *The Beyond*. The Artist-in-Residence weekends, three in all, feature an [artist talk](#), [in-gallery demonstrations](#), and a [workshop](#). See all exhibition-related events [here](#).

### About the Exhibitions

*The Beyond: Georgia O’Keeffe and Contemporary Art* is organized by Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas. Support for the national tour is provided by Helen Porter and by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

- Supporting Sponsor: Matrons of the Arts
- Media Sponsor: Capitol Broadcasting

*Candida Höfer in Mexico* is organized by Galería OMR in recognition of the Mexico-Germany Dual Year. Generous support is provided by the Institut-Goethe Mexico and the Secretaría de Cultura of Mexico. Additional support is provided by the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes, the Secretaría de Cultura of the State of Jalisco, the Instituto Estatal de Cultura of the State of Guanajuato, the Consejo Estatal para la Cultura of the State of Puebla, UBS México.

In Raleigh both exhibitions are made possible, in part, by the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources; the North Carolina Museum of Art Foundation, Inc.; and the William R. Kenan Jr. Endowment for Educational Exhibitions. Research was made possible by Ann and Jim Goodnight/The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fund for Curatorial and Conservation Research and Travel.

### Images (top to bottom):

Louise Jones’s mural *Summer’s Where You’ll Find Me* on East Building at the North Carolina Museum of Art

Louise Jones’s mural *Indian Summer* in downtown Raleigh on Benchmark Autoworks on West Davie Street

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**About the North Carolina Museum of Art**

The North Carolina Museum of Art's permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum opened West Building, home to the permanent collection, in 2010. The North Carolina Museum of Art, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Roy Cooper, governor, and an agency of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Susi Hamilton, secretary.