

Arts & Humanities

The Grounded Art of Paula Wilson

A solo exhibition titled *Through the Sky's Back Door* is on view at the California African American Museum from May - October 2024.

Spring/Summer 2024



Paula Wilson in front of a new work. (Courtesy of Paula Wilson)



Light it Up, 2019. (Courtesy of Tang Teaching Museum, Skidmore College)

Paula Wilson '05SOA, a New Mexico-based [multimedia artist](#), is known for her richly textured paintings, prints, and eclectic installations. Her works include *Full Circle Swing*, which invites visitors to sit and become a part of a sculpture, and monumental paintings and collages that joyfully explore Wilson's identity as a Black biracial woman. "I'm completely invested in accessibility, interaction, and breaking down the barriers between art and life," says the artist. "My work is often biographical, with self-portraits taking the form of multimedia amalgamations." A solo exhibition of Wilson's art, titled *Toward the Sky's Back Door*, is on view at the California African American Museum in Los Angeles from May 22 to August 18.



Left: Full Circle Swing, 2023 (with Mike Lagg). Right: Catching the Light, 2021. (Courtesy of Tang Teaching Museum, Skidmore College)

This article appears in the Spring/Summer 2024 print edition of Columbia Magazine with the title "Great Installations."



[Guide to school abbreviations](#)

TAKE THE COLUMBIA ALL-ALUMNI SURVEY

Complete the survey
by June 5.

50 randomly selected
survey participants
will receive a
Columbia sweatshirt!

Shape the alumni
experience.

alumni.columbia.edu/survey2026

 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

[All categories >](#)