

## **About Margaret E M Sheppard**

Margaret E M Sheppard is the director of Underpaper and co-founder of Peace Paper Project, a portable hand papermaking operation that engages international communities in traditional book arts processes as forms of trauma therapy, empowerment, and resilience. An avid hand papermaker and book artist, Margaret is interested in the materiality of texts and the production of books as social objects. Margaret holds an MA in the History of Text Technologies from the Florida State University. She is currently based at the University of Iowa, where she is pursuing her PhD in English with an emphasis on book studies and early modern literature. Her book arts works have been exhibited internationally and are archived at the Library of Congress and Yale University.

## **About the Talk – Wednesday, March 14, Academic Center Auditorium Larry R. Thompson Academic Center 11:30-12:15**

Drawing from her experiences with Combat Paper Project, Peace Paper Project, Panty Pulping, and Underpaper, Margaret E M Sheppard will discuss the challenges, affordances, and joys of working collaboratively in the public sphere. Focusing specifically on socially-engaged book arts, this lecture will consider a variety of topics relating to the development and maintenance of project and artistic identity. These topics include: project naming, branding, and narrative; working with archivists, art therapists, and activists; social engagement versus exploitation; self-care in the public sphere; and more.

## **About the Project and Workshop**

### **Papermaking Workshop – Wednesday, March 14, Academic Center Auditorium Outside Willis Smith Gallery, Larry R. Thompson Academic Center 4:00 – 7:00pm**

Underpaper is a hand papermaking event that celebrates creative resilience through the transformation of undergarments into paper art. Transforming unmentionables in a symbolic gesture of exposure, the project utilizes hand papermaking as a means to promote consent culture on college campuses and to invite individuals to stand in solidarity against violence in their communities. The Ringling College community is invited to join us for a drop-in-style evening of papermaking in the spirit of inclusivity, empowerment, and creative resilience. Participants will have the opportunity to: transform underwear and natural fibers into paper; create pulp prints using text and images generated by Ringling students; and add their names to a campus pledge of peace.

*No prior papermaking experience is necessary, but if you are new to the process, just know that it can get a little messy (it's wet). The workshop will run from 4-8 pm, and participants are welcome to come, go, stay, and hang for as long as they please. All of the sheets that are created in the workshop will be returned to their makers in the days following the event.*