

Acid Rain



Acid Rain, 2001

All Tired Out

Chakaia Booker (b. 1953) recycles tires into visually fascinating artworks. She twists, cuts, weaves, and rivets them into spiraling tendrils and prickled forms. For her, tires mirror our lifecycle from birth to death—their deep treads wear smooth over time.

Take a closer look

Booker wants us to have many associations with her sculptures. You may be reminded of natural forms, industrial production, African textile patterns and skin markings, environmental concerns, or something entirely different.

In her own words

“Art is storytelling, but the story is open, fluid, mysterious.”

Who knew?

Acid Rain comprises 12 sections that are installed together to create the work. Each of these sections weighs about 200 pounds. Adding up to more than a ton in total, it is among the heaviest, and largest, works in the museum’s collection.

Chakaia Booker, *Acid Rain*, 2001; Rubber tires and wood; 120 x 240 x 36 inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Museum purchase: Members’ Acquisition Fund; Photograph by Lee Stalsworth

