

Mari DeOleo (she/they) is a Caribbean-American multidisciplinary artist, clown, writer/director, and teaching artist based in Chicago. Born in the Dominican Republic and raised in rural Pennsylvania, Mari's artwork pushes the boundaries with a bombastic syncopated fusion of style whatever the medium. Their work can be seen from the carnival streets to theater seats and everywhere in between whether it be virtual worlds or immersive realities.

Mari's creative practice focuses on building empowerment, opening portals to new worlds of possibilities, connection, community, and creativity through art, technology, fashion, stories, comedy, the magical and the ancient, participation, and play. To inspire joy, fun, celebration, contemplation, and healing. Mari is currently working for the Lyric Opera of Chicago and the Chicago Urban League as the Program Facilitator for EmpowerYouth!.