

ARTIST STATEMENT

I currently work in two different parallel themes. In one aspect, I work as a glass blower, craftsman, or maker of objects who explores elements of design, color, and engagement of space. Currently, I am working through organic forms in blown glass that have a classic feel, while adding contrasting colors, surface treatments, and a fresh approach. I develop vessels that by nature are cold and sterile, while at the same time try to bring life through color. In keeping with a kinship I feel for the heritage of crafts, I continue my exploration of vessel making while developing designs. The process of glass blowing is one filled with an array of emotional and physical endurance. More times than not, I find myself disappointed when the development of the piece is over and the act of making is complete. When I am in process or “at the bench,” I find I am at the peak of a stimulation that is sometimes less than concerned with the outcome and more reveling in the moment.

Within my secondary focus, I use a conceptual approach to discuss the many nuances of different voices I have over an array of subject matter. In some regards, I am seeking answers to questions I pose; in others, I am relaying a conversation that is passing through me. I have many views on social, political, and personal platforms and their interactions with all the incredibly different people in which I observe or come in contact. I find everything from great humor and exhilaration, to anxiety and depression during my interactions and observations. Discussing the many subjects or anecdotes of those moments that stand out to me is personal documentation; a snap shot of time through sociological observation. Regardless, I have a strong appreciation for the well-made object and a high regard for craftsmanship is a priority.

I have always been a material-driven maker. My interest in mixed materials comes from a fascination with tactile content. In addition, I am attracted to surfaces of beauty and the grotesque, although sometimes they are the same and the lines separating them can be fuzzy. I find a kinship with materials such as glass, precious metals, steel, acrylics, and wood to name a few, but my involvement with them comes from a interest in how they contrast and compliment each other.

As an artist, I define myself more as a fabricator. I feel that my research into materials results in a linear process that is similar to manufacturing. The main ingredient in my work is that there is no limitation on variation of subject, medium, or technique. To me, making art is like a playground of discovery.