

Glasscraft Emerging Artist Award



Demetra Theofanous

Demetra Theofanous has been immersed in the arts from an early age. Her thirst for expression was temporarily diverted, however, when she entered the business world as a tax consultant and CPA. When she realized there was something missing in her work, she decided to return to her creative roots and discovered glass.

Demetra began to create glass beads as a hobby but found that since pioneered an approach for casting *pâte de verre* components and attaching them to flameworked sculpture. During a lampworking apprenticeship, she was introduced to borosilicate glass, a material well suited to creating glass sculpture behind the torch. In 2007, she switched her focus from beadmaking to lampworked glass sculpture and is self-taught in the techniques needed to create her signature nests, flowers, and branches.

In 2010 Demetra was juried into the prestigious Higuchi class at Corning, learning the ancient technique of *pâte de verre*. She has since pioneered an approach for casting *pâte de verre* components and attaching them to flameworked sculpture. Demetra is also a 2010 NICHE Award Finalist, a 2010 GLANC Award Scholarship recipient, and 2012 recipient of the Juror's Choice Award from Dorothy Saxe. She has exhibited nationally and was included in the 2012 National Liberty Museum "Liberty in Bloom" show. Her diverse background is now reflected in her work, as she combines flameworking with other materials and disciplines in glass. She continues to experiment and test the boundaries of glass with her never-ending curiosity for this art form as she operates a private flameworking studio in San Francisco, California, where she continues to develop her signature work.

Visit www.sculpturebydemetra.com to view more of Demetra's glass art.

