

Glasscraft Emerging Artist Award

Bashi Alé

Bashi Alé, a passionate Pacific Northwest artist, was first introduced to flameworking when he moved to Eugene, Oregon, in 1997. An artist who comes from a long line of artisans and Italian craftsmen, he had already made significant strides in establishing himself as a surrealist illustrator and painter when he discovered his muse in glass.

Born in Boise, Idaho, on July 26, 1981, Bashi spent his early childhood growing up in California until moving with his family to Oregon. In 2000 he received an apprenticeship with a local glass studio. This experience taught him the fundamental techniques used in borosilicate flameworking and served as a stepping-stone toward a solo career.

Bashi is best known for his custom jewelry and art marbles, and his work can be seen in galleries, museums, and private collections worldwide. He also enjoys teaching his glass techniques through magazine tutorials, video demonstrations, and individual classes. A multimedia artist who also owns his own publishing company, Bashi's success in glass may be attributed to his scientific approach of mixing realism with abstract qualities, not to mention countless hours perfecting his technique behind the torch. He believes that glass is like a suspension of time, forever showcasing the artisan's will.

Visit www.glassworksboutique.com to learn more about Bashi Alé and his art.



Nathan Snyder

Nathan Snyder began lampworking in the summer of 2001 in Mapleton, Utah, after a friend gave him an open invitation to come to his shop and watch him work. He was instantly hooked. Nathan spent hours each day just watching his friend, hypnotized by the glass spinning in the flame, and couldn't wait to get behind a torch of his own. A year later he began his own journey and spent every free moment behind the torch being captivated by the glow of the molten glass.

Experimentation has been one of Nathan's main tools for developing his own style. He has worked with three different lampworking artists over the years and learned a lot from them, but the majority of his ideas come from trial and error. He tends to do things the wrong way at first, learning what not to do, then moves forward from that point. Nathan tries to be as "in the moment" as possible when creating at the torch, because he feels that is where the vast majority of his ideas emerge into successful, one-of-a-kind pieces of art.

Nathan currently lives in Provo, Utah, where he loves to spend time with his wife Anya and son Nico.

He has a home studio there and works exclusively with borosilicate glass, which has a very high melting point but also provides what Nathan feels is the most optical clarity available.

Visit www.snydersglassfire.com to learn more about Nathan Snyder and his art.

