

ART OF PIPES WITH PAKOH



My current body of work is an exploration of the form and nature of the pipe. What is the cultural and historical significance of the pipe and how are pipes regarded in modern society?

I view the pipe as both object and subject at the same time. Beyond being functional, the pipe is a vehicle for expression. I question both its function, in and of itself, and its role within society. I elaborate on these ideas and questions, by taking the form of a pipe and exploring it within different contexts. Responding to conventions society has established, the pipe now becomes the subject of discussion. The lines are blurred between pipes, glass and art. My goal is to question and twist societies conventions. My work is a reaction to the world around me, both the microcosm of the "glass world" and the macrocosm of the "real world". Patterns, forms and colors are powerful allies in the quest to express ideas and emotions. As "glass art" evolves further, the key to that evolution will involve artists pushing the limits of their minds to the infinite possibilities of the medium.

Pakoh was born and raised on Long Island, NY and has been creating art his whole life. He has received many awards and accommodations from as early as 1st grade, and all throughout his primary education. His natural inclination towards art led him to one of the most prestigious art schools in the country, the Rhode Island School of Design, where he received his Bachelors of Fine Arts degree. Although he majored in painting, Pakoh studied a wide variety of mediums at different institutions across the country, including the San Francisco Art Institute and Pilchuck Glass School, where he ultimately discovered his love for glass. This became his focus and occupation after graduation in 1999.

Pakoh worked out of Rhode Island until January 2003 when he was fortunate enough to land a spot at well known cooperative glass studio in Seattle Washington called Glass Works Park. There he was able to grow and learn from some of the "new school" leaders in the flameworking field. In September 2004, he moved to his current studio, a smaller Co-op with underground glass guru Max Polin.