

JEREMIAH J. JACOBS

1000 52nd Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33710
JeremiahJamesJacobs@hotmail.com
920-344-8096

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

I grew up in rural Wisconsin and began to take an interest in visual arts during high school when I enrolled in a ceramics program. It was at this time that I realized I could potentially pursue ceramics as a career, and I have been a practicing potter ever since. Shortly after high school, I attended the Art Institute of Chicago where my eyes were opened to other mediums, which I immediately began exploring other as a means for expressing my ideas.

Following my studies, I was introduced to Joel Huntley at Wisconsin Pottery, with whom I spent 10 years working and learning. He taught me the art forms of slip trailing and sgraffito while creating colonial reproductions, among others. This practice was foundational to my appreciation for the medium and the experience taught me how to truly learn in a studio setting.

In search of a new adventure, I moved to St. Petersburg, Florida in 2012 for a ceramics residency at Craftsman House Gallery. I was soon introduced to glass artist Duncan McClellan and shortly thereafter began exchanging work time at his Gallery and Hot Shop for time in the Hot Shop. This was where I first fell in LOVE with glass.

I enjoy the intensity of the glassblowing process – it motivates me to work quickly and loosely, yet in a controlled manner. I am awed by the capability of the material – the unparalleled color and variety in texture you can achieve with it, its strength and fragility. Furthermore, glassblowing is very much a team sport and I thrive in settings I get to work with other people, so it was a natural fit.

My exploration of materials didn't stop with glass. Introduced to MGA Sculpture Studio in 2013, I discovered that a similar skillset to glassmaking applied to metal, mold making, 2-part rubber, and fiberglass sculpture.

I have since been exposed to many different types of artistic work and have been eagerly learning as many new materials and processes as possible, including mold-making, glassblowing, and bronze casting. In my time working as a house gaffer at the Morean Hot Shop, I quickly became a well-rounded glassblower and found that much of what I learned in my ceramic work transfers beautifully to glass, as do my ideas and styles from my ceramic work. By expanding and even blending the two mediums, I have experienced a creative surge in many new and exciting ways.

In my Art, I like to pursue humor and adventure in dealing with shape and form, color and pattern. My sculptures tend towards anamorphism as I create shapes that have their own character and strong presence.

Lately, I have been investigating political art lately as a way to harness my heavy emotions toward our current social climate. Art is a perfect escape from the weight of our times, while also functioning as a release or an escape from reality in which we live. I aim to continue my exploration of mediums, subject matter, and locales, so that I may realize my full potential as an Artist and contribute positively toward society.