

PENLAND GALLERY

KAZUKI TAKIZAWA

Los Angeles, CA

GLASS | Sculpture, installation, and functional glass

Penland Affiliation | Penland Instructor 2022

Artist Information | Studio artist; education: BFA University of Hawaii at Manoa; professional experience: founder of KT Glassworks, LLC; teaching: Penland School of Craft (NC), Appalachian Center for Craft (TN), Pilchuck Glass School (WA), Urban Glass (NY), Pittsburgh Glass Center (PA); residencies: Barrio Glassworks (CA), The Works (OH), Salem State University (MA), STARworks Glass Lab (NC); exhibitions: Craft Contemporary Museum (CA), River House Arts (OH), Duncan McClellan Gallery (FL), The Works (OH), Craft in America Center (CA), Westfield Valencia Town Center Art Space (CA)

Artist Bio | Kazuki Takizawa is a Japanese glass artist based in Los Angeles, California. He graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a BFA in glass art in 2010 and currently owns and runs KT Glassworks, LLC in the historic West Adams neighborhood of Los Angeles.

Artist Statement | *As an artist who lives with bipolar disorder, Kazuki Takizawa uses glass as a means to explore his inner reality and destigmatize mental illness. With an aim to give the invisible shape, Takizawa crafts elaborate vessels and installations, each with a unique story. Universally rooted in a dialogue around mental health, his series examines broad themes such as attaining minimalism among chaos as well as his personal narratives around the topic of living with Bipolar Disorder and suicide prevention. Takizawa has traveled to numerous communities in and outside the US to share his work and act as an advocate for mental illness. His practice offers an uncommon and inclusive space to increase awareness and start a conversation.*