

PENLAND GALLERY

SARAH VAUGHN

Penland, NC

Glass | Sculptural glass

Penland Affiliation | Penland Resident Artist 2021 - 2024

Artist Information | Studio artist; education: Associates in Liberal Arts, Olney Central College (IL), BFA Glass Sculpture, Art History minor, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale (IL), MFA Glass, Rochester Institute of Technology (NY); teaching: Chrysler Museum of Glass Studio (VA), Third Degree Glass Factory (MO), Old Dominion University (VA), Governor's School of Art (VA); exhibitions: *A Shared Space*, Appalachian Center for Craft (TN), *Illuminations in Glass*, Winterowd Fine Art (NM), *Connections 2022*, Tacoma Museum of Glass (WA), *Small Works/Big Impact*, Momentum Gallery (NC)

Artist Statement | *I create sculptures and installations that pause to consider pivotal moments and visualize the precarious balance we maintain throughout life. Primarily using cast and cold-formed processes, I exploit the preconceived perception of glass as a material to help articulate the topics being explored, asking the viewer to question the material being used and how it changes their notion of what they see.*

My work focuses on responses to experiences throughout life. I consider each piece an abstracted self-portrait, capturing thoughts, anxieties, memories, and hopes. Recurring themes like "precarious balance" and "contemplative moments" speak to the desire to find harmony and a sense of order while acknowledging that I am tiptoeing on the edge of chaos. At times using tension, friction, and gravity to stack, wedge, and balance elements to create the desired effect. The emotional response elicited from the viewer is meant to allow pause, reflecting on one's own history, finding common ground within the emotions we have all experienced throughout life regardless of the narratives that lead us there.

Technical Information | Cast and flameworked glass

Penland School of Craft | Penland Gallery & Visitors Center
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