PENLAND GALLERY

LAURA WOOD

Asheville, NC

METALS | Jewelry

Penland Affiliation | Penland Resident Artist 2017-2020, Penland Instructor 2016

Artist Information | Studio artist; education: MFA East Carolina University, BFA University of Georgia; teaching: Penland School of Craft; exhibitions: WEAR | Contemporary Jewelry (Penland Gallery, NC), Smithsonian Craft Show (DC), American Craft Council Show (MD), Norton Museum of Art (FL), Artspace (NC), Visual Arts Center of Richmond (VA), The Boston Center for the Arts (MA); collections: The Mint Museum (NC), The Philadelphia Museum of Art (PA), The Racine Art Museum (WI), Yale University Art Gallery (CT), Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts (AR), The Crocker Art Museum (CA); residencies: Penland School of Craft (NC), Southwest School of Art (TX)

Artist Statement | Laura Wood is a full-time jewelry artist living in Asheville, North Carolina. Laura's creative practice began in dance and shifted to contemporary jewelry in college, at University of Georgia, where she was introduced to jewelry and metalsmithing. A performative arts background continues to influence her work. Sculptural forms are thoughtfully engineered for the body and are intended to contribute to a daily experience. Her jewelry is represented in galleries and exhibitions nationally and internationally and has exhibited in widely celebrated craft expositions including the Smithsonian Craft Show, American Craft Council Show, and Sculpture, Objects, Functional Art and Design Expo (SOFA) in Chicago, Illinois.

Laura's work is among the permanent collections of the Gregg Museum of Art at North Carolina State University (NC), Racine Art Museum (WI), Mint Museum (NC), Enamel Arts Foundation (CA), Philadelphia Museum of Art (PA), Yale University Art Gallery (CT), Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts (AR) and The Crocker Art Museum (CA). Laura completed a three-year term in the resident artist program at Penland School of Craft (2017-2020). She is the founding voice of the annual ECU Symposium (2010) and is a co-founder of Jewelry Edition (2012), a creative project aimed at facilitating the growth of jewelry artists. She earned a BFA from the University of Georgia (2007) and an MFA in metal design from East Carolina University (2011).