

PENLAND GALLERY

REBECCA ZINK

Indianapolis, IN

Metals | Jewelry

Penland Affiliation | Penland Student 2021

Artist Information | Studio artist; education: BFA Ball State University (IN), MFA Southern Illinois University Carbondale (IL); exhibitions: National Ornamental Museum (TN), Woman Made Gallery (IL), Penland Gallery (NC), Red Metal (LA)

Artist Bio | Rebecca Zink was born in Indianapolis, Indiana. She earned her BFA in metalsmithing and visual communications from Ball State University. She completed her MFA in metalsmithing at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale where the program's blacksmithing department strongly influenced her jewelry work through the application of industrial processes and materials alongside fine metals. Upon her completion of graduate school in 2017, Rebecca was awarded the 2017-2018 Stutz Artists Association Residency (IN). In 2019 she was selected for *40 Under 40: The Next Generation of American Metal Artists* at the Metal Museum in Memphis, Tennessee. She currently lives and works in Indianapolis.

Artist Statement | *I challenge the idea of value by bringing blue-collar materials into the jewelry realm. By highlighting them against materials considered to be more valuable, I reveal their beauty that is not usually seen. White silver is juxtaposed against black steel to create a contrast of color and texture, and to place steel in its rightful spot in a position of value. The beauty of the stringy wrought iron with its texture of splintered wood shines over the sleek yellow gold it is paired with. Silver is cut to create a jagged dramatic edge with a plasma cutter and is paired with polished steel to swap the ways the materials are addressed. Brightly colored gold is used as the glue to hold rhythmic pieces of steel together. Through the juxtapositions and the nontraditional treatment of materials, I create a dialogue that rivals the beauty and value seen in any jewelry store.*

Technical Information | Steel, sterling silver, and gemstones