

## Artist Spotlight - February 2012

I met recently with Ann Hollingsworth, to visit her studio and discuss her art work. Living in Half Moon Bay, she has plenty of scenic landscape, to draw from for her work. Following are the highlights from my visit with this talented artist.

*Demetra Theofanous*  
*Artist & GLANC Board Member*

### What Inspires you?

The intricacies of the natural world, Buddhism, studio practice, and the exploration of alchemy metals.



### Who or what has been most influential in your craft?

I was intensely moved by the Stanislav Libensky and Jaroslava Brychtova sculptures at the Corning Museum of Glass, and how they captured light from within. It inspired me to pursue the study of glass casting at California College of the Arts with Clifford Rainey and Pamina Traylor. I also have studied at Corning and Pilchuck glass schools. My current work relationship with Jane Rosen, casting pieces for her, has greatly shaped my art practice as well.

*I could see this notion of "captured light" in many of the pieces at Ann's studio. Below are a few of Ann's pieces from her Vestiges Series, that truly illuminate when the light hits them:*

*Ocean Return*

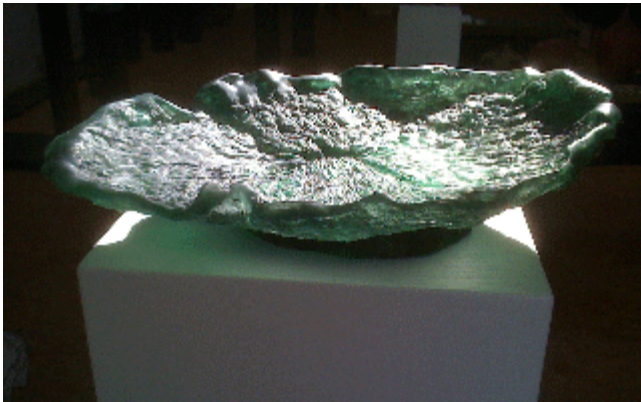
*Confluence*



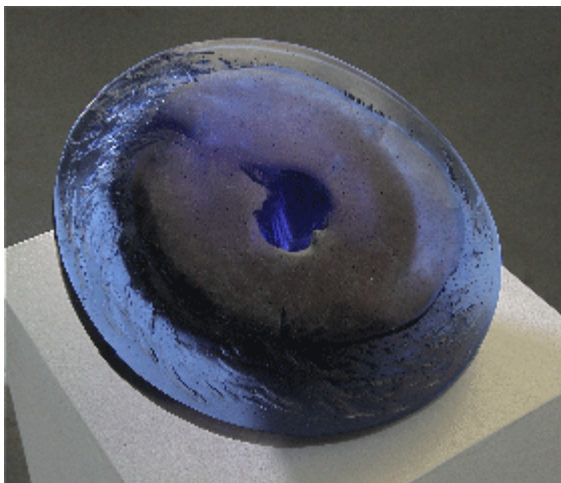
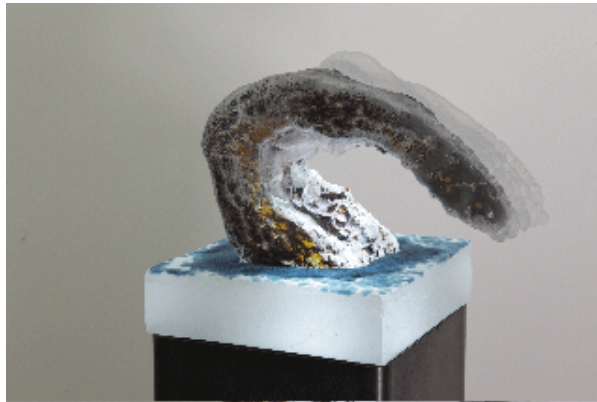
*Water Catcher*



*Wave with Teeth*



*Deep Within*



If you could look inside the studio of any artist, who would it be and why?

If I could time travel, I would visit Leonardo Da Vinci because he crossed the boundaries of art, science, alchemy, and invention. Another artist I admire is Louise Bourgeois, because she was a phenomenal artist who worked until her last moments on earth.

What is your creative process?

I imagine works that I want to make or questions that I want to work with. It is about interconnection with the natural world, water, balance, and movement. From those



ideas I begin working in clay, wax and other materials to form molds. Hot glass is then poured into these molds, after they're made. I use hot casting of glass to capture the movement of glass, as well as its refractive properties. [At right, hot casting]

**Do you work with mediums outside of glass as well?**

Yes, I work with wood, stone, metal, concrete, cast paper, and also have worked extensively with printmaking and drawing. [Below, stone carving in progress]



**What do you see as your biggest challenge as an artist?**

My biggest challenge as an artist is to keep my environment and my mind focused and clear and not be overly influenced by commerce and the opinions of others.

**Do you have any upcoming shows?**

The Cynthia-Reeves Projects, "A Conference of the Birds Exhibition", MANA Contemporary, Jersey City, NJ, May-July 2012. It will then travel to a site in New England for the month of August.



*Thank you, Ann, for a wonderful glimpse of your world! You can see a beautiful installation of Ann's work on display in Palo Alto at 101 Alma St., in a series called the Alma Street Project. If you'd like to make an appointment with Ann to visit her studio in Half Moon Bay, please contact her at the phone number above.*

*Work on display at the Alma Street Project.*



*Ann at the beach*

