



Hot Works, LLC in Asheville

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idea of glass in art to a whole new level. The hundreds of small stained and fused glass squares he incorporates into his three-dimensional structures imbue them with a kinetic quality in which Barnes' patterns seem to change direction and intensity as they respond to light and the movement of the viewer eyeing the piece.

Barnes continually pushes the limits of what an artist can accomplish with glass. Like many others in the field, innovation often comes as the result of trial, error and happy circumstance. That's especially true of the leopard pattern that typifies much of his newer fused glass works. "I discovered that tack fusing leaves glass more tactile, so that you can build layer upon layer," Barnes explains. "Trapping air pockets between layers creates a pattern reminiscent of a leopard's spots. I like that visual texture. It's richer and deeper and has considerably more character than what you can get with full fusing."

While Barnes is gratified that glass art connoisseurs and collectors are clamoring for his innovative pieces, he is equally proud of the growing demand for his monumental work in the realm of public art. One such site-specific public artwork is *Cascade*, which stands 45 feet high by 22 feet wide and 9 feet deep. Commissioned in 2013, the installation consists of 157 separate pieces of fused glass that are suspended by stainless steel cables from the ceiling in the front entrance to the new Owensboro Convention Center in Owensboro, KY. Contrasting with the building's angular design, *Cascade's* gentle curves bring both movement and color into the space, conjuring the flow of the Ohio River that runs behind the center.

"I am currently working on a commission for the University of Wisconsin in Madison that's a bronze with stained and fused glass that's lighted from within," Barnes reports. It's a representation of the university mascot, Bucky the Beaver, that will stand ten feet tall.

Lighting the glass from inside the piece is a novel approach, but then Barnes is continually searching for new ways to involve his viewers with the pieces he creates.

Barnes only began experimenting with glass several years ago. Lured by stained glass' beauty and versatility, he studied with Laura Hallock in Lexington, KY.



Work by Dan Neil Barnes

Since then, he's not only ventured into fused glass and sculptural works, he's become a proven innovator.

Before switching to glass art, Barnes owned and operated a highly-successful upholstery and furniture design business with a reputation for design flair and top-quality craftsmanship. But that business just didn't afford Barnes with the creative opportunities and challenges he enjoys today.

"Besides, I really enjoy going to art shows around the country and meeting hundreds of people who love glass and sculpture and art, just like me."

You can meet Dan Neil Barnes and view his art at the Asheville Fine Art Show on May 20 and 21. You will find the show indoors at the US Cellular Center (formerly the Civic Center) at 87 Haywood St., Asheville, NC 28801. The Asheville Fine Art Show is produced by Hot Works, LLC, which has been producing quality art fairs and festivals since 2003. Today, Hot Works owns four top 100 art shows in the nation.

There will also be a Youth art competition for K-8 or ages 5-13 with \$250 in cash awards.

Admission to the Asheville Fine Art Show is \$8 per day or \$10 for both days.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, visit (www.hotworks.org) or e-mail to Executive Producer Patty Narozny at (patty@hotworks.org).



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Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Sandra Brugh Moore

The Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, will present *Light + Line*, features watercolor works by Sandra Brugh Moore,

on view from May 1 - 31, 2017. A reception will be held on May 5, from 5-8pm.

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