



Statement

2020 has certainly been a strange and at times agonizing year. Much of what has transpired in our world has had a profound influence on my work. At times I found it very hard to work. However, knowing that at some point my world would return to a more normal, less stressful time, I spent a lot of studio time experimenting with new materials and ideas. During 2020 my work was directly influenced by the COVID 19 pandemic and by the

political turmoil we have lived with on a daily basis.

In this exhibit, two pieces, Shelter 37 and Exploration 207 are colorful and meant to be a celebration during times when celebrating is difficult. Balance 121 recalls childhood memories of playing on a teeter totter or seesaw with my smaller brother. Try as he would to move the beam his way, I was heavy enough to prevent that movement. This is how I've felt many times this past year with regards to issues of our freedom, safety and the environment in particular. Exploration 202 is a personal statement of my concern that our country represented by red and blue is drifting into a black hole that will continue to separate and tear our freedoms and ideals apart. The piece 19 in 20 is a reflection of my concern and fear of the pandemic, COVID 19 that attacked our world in 2020. Each piece had a used mask that was covered with glass powder and burned out in the kiln leaving only a permanent residue.

As 2021 moves on, my work this year will focus on the beauty of our environment and my fear that our vital natural resources will disappear under the dispensing of governmental protections and global warming.

Bio

Steve Klein lives in La Conner, WA where he currently maintains a studio and makes his distinctive kiln-formed and blown work. In creating a wide variety of imagery in his work he uses shape, color, line, texture and the incomparable reflection of light that only glass can provide. "My work seeks to explore, and interpret personal visions that cause me to pause and appreciate what I am experiencing".

Howard N. Fox Curator, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, stated; "As an artist Klein is quite literally an idealist, engaged in intercepting and revealing a sort of formal perfection that yearns for the ideality of mathematics, logic, and philosophy. And yet, that sumptuousness and sensuality, the elegance and refined physicality of form, color, texture and scale are undeniably and assertively present in his sculptures. He manifests a perfect colloquy of the ideal and the real in his art."

Klein cites painters, Ben Nicholson, Albers, Mondrian, Malevich and Hofmann as well as sculptors Hepworth, Chillida, and Judd as key influences.

Steve's work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Glass, Tacoma, WA, Museum of Art and Design, New York City, the Museo del Vidrio in Spain, Tsinghua University Museum in Beijing, Tissot Museum, Taipei, Taiwan, Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh, Eretz Israel Museum, Tel Aviv, Museum of Northwest Art, WA, California Museum of Art, Oakland, CA., and the Racine Art Museum, WI.