

Jeanie Thorn: Metal Mastermind

Jeanie Thorn began her art education at Boston University School of Fine Art and continued her studies at Arizona State University College of Architecture, where she received a Bachelors of Science Degree in Design. After learning to weld, she decided to combine her love of art and architecture to create unique works with modern, clean lines and soothing dichotomic qualities.

Jeanie says of her work:

“My art reflects an interest in the organization of form as it relates to the built environment and to other manmade objects.”

"I am especially intrigued by the designs of other cultures that shape our perceptions of art through their unique and indigenous aesthetic. Textile design holds a particular fascination for me as well as jewelry design and other types of human adornment. What we think of as *modern* art today can easily be traced back to the artifacts, patterns and motifs created by ancient civilizations.”

Thorn’s ability to combine organic elements like polished stones with distinctly cut steel creates an antipodal design of textures reflective of an urban skyscraper nestled amidst a rolling countryside. Her work gives a sense of balance and integrity that suits a collector’s dining room or a corporate foyer equally.

"I am interested in the purity of composition in contrast to the imperfections inherent in all metals, which results in a richer sensory experience. It is my intention that these surface transitions create the desire for closer inspection and reflection.”

"In addition, the commitment of welding my own work forces me to face the challenges of construction while maintaining the vision of my design. Problem solving is paramount in the fabrication process and it is often necessary to make adjustments as the work progresses. The outcome is sometimes determined by the constraints of the tools, the amount of heat applied, and the personality of the steel. The elements of line, plane, shape, texture, proportion and color - along with the characteristics of a limited palette of materials and my constant editing and elimination of the unnecessary while attempting to maintain the artistic poetry - all combine to give the final expression to the piece.”

Jeanie’s work has found a home in numerous personal, public, and corporate collections across the United States. Her sensible metal wall hangings have been selected for inclusion by Arizona State University and the Arizona Designer Craftsmen in their annual juried shows. She was also featured in Phoenix Home and Garden Magazine and produces a fascinating blog about the techniques seen in her work and the inspiration that drives her as an artist. Thorn’s studio is located in Phoenix, Arizona, and her work can be experienced in several galleries across the southwest.