

Biography

Elizabeth Perkins was born and raised in a rural American farming community and is the daughter of a dairy farming family on her father's side and a tobacco farming family on her mother's side. While earning her master's degree she took stewardship over the 350 acre farm on which her mother was born. Tending and creating there, made Perkins' the eighth generation in her family to do so since the 1700's.

There is a deep connection between the farmer's and artist's mentality. Both must maintain faith in what they are doing, have persistence and stamina. In response to present moments, they use former experiences and creatively expand. These moments allow them to try new things, to grow, and innovate.

It is in the nurturing of the proper alignment of circumstances; joining past and present, and taking necessary leaps of faith to propel and discover that the artist holds in highest regard in her making and creative process.

After earning her BFA in sculpture from the Atlanta College of Art and studying glass at the California College of Arts and Crafts, she became an apprentice at the Jamestown Glasshouse. Following this glass apprenticeship, she began assisting other glass artists. She received her MFA in Craft + Material Studies, Glass from Virginia Commonwealth University, and has attended workshops at Penland School of Crafts. Her artistic research has been generously supported through residencies at North Lands Creative Glass in Scotland, UK, the Studio of the Corning Museum of Glass, The Creative Glass Center of America, and Pilchuck Glass School.

Recent notable exhibitions include: *Making Our Mark*, Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA. *a(f)i(ormations)*. Project Diana, The Alice Gallery, Seattle, WA. *Beyond Tradition: Contemporary Glass in a Museum Environment*, Scotland, UK, *Purge* an exhibition at Seattle's SOIL gallery held during the 41st international Glass Art Society conference, *Home and Away* at Quatre Bras Gallery in Scotland, *BIGG: Breakthroughs Ideas In Global Glass* an international exhibition at Ohio State University Urban Art Space in conjunction with Hawk Galleries, *Art of Fine Craft* an exhibition for the biennial craft conference presented by Lux Center for the Arts and the Department of Art at Nebraska Wesleyan University, *Searchlight Artist's: American Craft Council Show* held in Baltimore, and exhibitions at Friesen in Seattle, WA and Reynolds Gallery in Richmond, VA.

Elizabeth has served as an Adjunct Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University and Tidewater Community College. After finishing an artist in residence in Scotland in 2010, she relocated to the Pacific Northwest, where she makes works, teaches and serves as a freelance artist, assistant, and administrator. She previously worked as a production assistant to Elizabeth King and Carlton Newton, Paul Dipasquale, Steve Hirt, Mary Van Cline, Martin Blank, was the Hot Shop Manager for Martin Blank Studio's, has worked for Corning Museum of Glass's Blow Glass at Sea Program, and Chihuly Inc.