

MELANIE LEPLA

MAD RIVER GLASS



Melanie Guernsey-Leppla is a visionary artist whose distinctive glasswork captures the profound interplay of light, color, and nature's timeless beauty. Based in Vermont, Melanie draws inspiration from the world around her, creating exquisite glass cairns that embody both artistic mastery and meaningful symbolism. Each piece represents the milestones of life—accomplishments achieved, challenges overcome, and the wisdom gained along the way—while serving as a beacon of guidance for journeys yet to unfold.

Since earning her BFA from the Rochester Institute of Technology in 1986, Melanie has been crafting extraordinary glass art that resonates deeply with viewers. Her work, characterized by its vibrant hues, organic forms, and connection to natural elements, has been showcased in prestigious exhibitions across the United States and internationally.

A celebrated artist, Melanie has received two fellowship grants from The Creative Glass Center of America and a fellowship grant from the New Jersey Council for the Arts. Her pieces are included in the permanent collections of the Museum of American Craft and the Museum of American Glass, as well as numerous esteemed private collections. Working from her Vermont studio, Melanie continues to innovate, blending technical precision with a soulful connection to the natural world. Her creations are not merely works of art—they are reflections of life's journey, illuminated by the fire and light that shape her medium and her vision.

