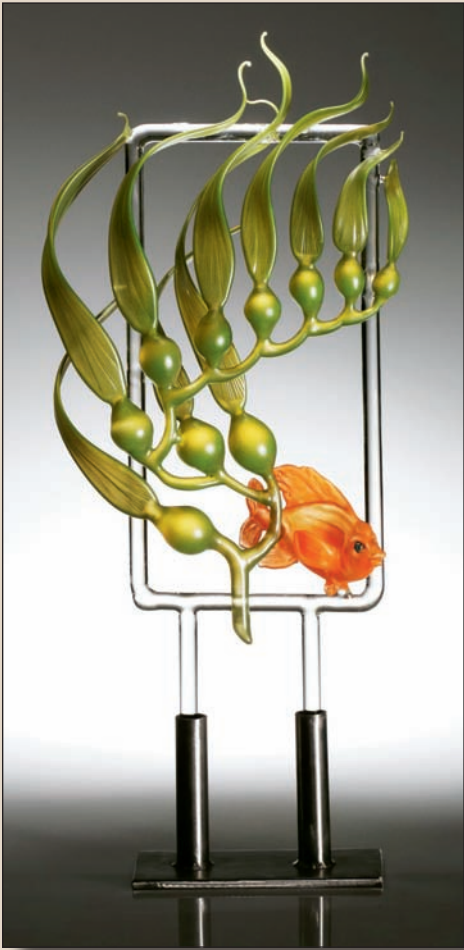# Jennifer Umphress

Jennifer Umphress considers glass to be the ideal medium, because glass has it all—color, dimension, clarity, and reflection. The medium enables her to express her thoughts and feelings in the moment. She has worked with cold glass and other mediums besides lampworking, but once she discovered the rush of creating with constant motion and having no time to think but instead feeling her piece, she was completely captivated.

Although Jennifer's inspiration comes from the ocean, she is most intrigued by capturing movement. She tries to emulate the movement of sea life in a simple contemporary form. This source of inspiration is a natural one for her, since she was born and raised in California and later made Hawaii her home after visiting there and falling in love with its beauty.

Jennifer began her career in glass in 2000 working and apprenticing in a small retail/studio in the islands. Continuing to grow as an artist, she expanded her knowledge by attending Sundance Art Center in Santa Cruz, California, in December 2002. Wanting to learn traditional concepts of glass, Jennifer spent one month in Murano, Italy, in November 2005 studying under Cesare Toffolo. Since then she has had the opportunity to take workshops from Robert Mickelsen, Janis Miltenberger, and Richard LaLonde.

In 2006 Jennifer relocated to Kingston, Washington, hoping that the Northwest will provide as much influence for her as Hawaii did. Her work is constantly changing and evolving, but she still draws her biggest influence from the Islands and the Pacific Ocean that surrounded her for so long.

Visit www.jenniferumphress.com to view more of Jennifer's glass art.

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What is the Glasscraft Emerging Artist Award?

The Glasscraft Emerging Artist Award will be awarded to up-and-coming flameworking artists who have demonstrated outstanding skill and who have contributed to the lampworking community through technical and artistic innovation.