

JESSICA BEELS

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ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

- 1992** Master of Early American Culture/Winterthur Fellow – *Univ. of Delaware*, Newark, DE
1985 BA Art History – *Harvard University*, Cambridge, MA

SELECTED GALLERY SHOWS

- 2021** *Art Optimism* – The Athenaeum, Alexandria, VA
Revisitation – DC Arts Center, Washington, DC
- 2020** *ReClaimed ReUsed RePurposed: Sustainable Art for the Planet* – Studio Gallery, Washington, DC
Paper Complex – Glen Echo Popcorn Gallery, Glen Echo, MD
National Geographic Earth Day Celebration and Summer Art Market – Washington, DC
- 2019** *MashUp* – Pyramid Atlantic Members' Exhibition, Hyattsville, MD
Tom Rooney Prize Exhibition – Catholic University, Washington, DC
The Art of Evolution – Takoma Park Community Center, Takoma Park, MD
- 2018** *Alchemical Vessels* – Joan Hisaoka Center for Healing and the Arts, Washington, DC (also 2014)
What Feminism Looks Like – DC Arts Center, Washington, DC
One House – Touchstone Gallery, Washington, DC; BlackRock Ctr for Arts, Germantown, MD
- 2017** *Earth Bound* – American Center for Physics, College Park, MD
Members Juried Exhibition – Pyramid Atlantic, Hyattsville, MD
Creative Crafts Council Biennial – Strathmore Mansion, Bethesda, MD (also 2007, 2011, 2013)
Preconceptual: Zeitgeist IV – Hillyer Art Space, Washington, DC
Artful Attire – Glen Echo Park, Popcorn Gallery, Glen Echo, MD
- 2016** *Man/Made*, installation and featured artist – Takoma Park Community Center, Takoma Park, MD
Featured Artist at deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum shop – Lincoln, MA
Handmade: Explorations in Fiber – BlackRock Center for the Arts, Germantown, MD
- 2015** *Call and Response* – Angie Newman Johnson Gallery, Alexandria, VA
Ephemeral – Greater Reston Arts Center, Reston, VA
Personal Patterns – King Street Gallery, Montgomery College, Silver Spring, MD
- 2014** *Voyage of Discovery* – AAAS, Washington, DC; McLean Project for the Arts, McLean, VA
- 2013** Selected sculptures on display at National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
Life up Close – Orange Regional Medical Center, Middletown, NY
Pulse: Art and Medicine – Strathmore Mansion, Bethesda, MD
Flux: A Craft Exchange – Handmade in America, Asheville, NC
- 2012** *Courage Unmasked 2* – Katzen Arts Center, Washington, DC (also 2009)
- 2011** *Rare Alignment* – Ice House Gallery, Berkeley Springs, WV
Abstracts: Borrowed from Reality – Suffolk Ctr for the Cultural Arts, Suffolk, VA
Bijou – Bruce Museum, Greenwich, CT
By the Numbers – BlackRock Center for the Arts, Germantown, MD
Ebb and Flow – Herndon ArtSpace, Herndon, VA
Beels/Dahlke/Holtsman – BlackRock Center for the Arts, Germantown, MD
- 2010** *Elements: The State of Matter* – DC Arts Center, Washington, DC
Wearable Art/Unwearable Fashion – VisArts, Rockville, MD
Personal Armor – BlackRock Center for the Arts, Germantown, MD
Thoreau's Legacy – Union of Concerned Scientists, Washington, DC
- 2006** *Fiber's Finest* – Gilchrist Museum, Cumberland, MD
- 2005** *Translucence: Forms in Paper* – Lynn Tandler Bignell Gallery, Brookfield, CT

COLLECTIONS

City of Takoma Park, MD; Union of Concerned Scientists, Washington, DC; Second Act Productions, Long Island City, NY

SELECTED RECENT JURIED RETAIL CRAFT SHOWS

Artrider Craft New York – New York, NY (2019)
Artrider Rhinebeck Crafts Festival – Rhinebeck, NY (2018)
Artrider CraftWestport – Westport, CT (2018)
Craft 2 Wear (Smithsonian) – Washington, DC (2012)
Craft Boston – Boston, MA (Spring and Winter 2011)
Craft Optimism (Smithsonian/Honoring the Future) – Washington, DC (Spring 2021)
Paradise City Festival – Northampton, MA (2009–2011)
Pleiades Art Jewelry Show – Strathmore Mansion, Bethesda, MD (2013, 2015, 2016, 2018)
Smithsonian Craft Show – Washington, DC (2009, 2021)
Washington Craft Show – Washington, DC (2008–2011)
Westchester Craft Show – Westchester, NY (2008 – 2011)

ART TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

1987–present **Art/Design Business** – Design and fabricate sculpture and jewelry in various media; teach papermaking, jewelry design, and beadwork workshops
2017 **Torch-Fired Enamels** (Anne Havel) – *Touchstone Ctr for Crafts* – Farmington, PA
2015 **3D Felting Techniques** (Lisa Klakulak) – Asheville, NC
Borosilicate Glass Sculpture (Jennifer Umphress) – Goggleworks, Reading, PA
2008 **Jewelry** (Metals - Ken Bova) – *Haystack Mountain School*, Deer Isle, ME
2003 **PMC Certification** (Chris Darway) – *PMC Guild Course*, Lambertville, NJ
1998 **Paper Sculpture** (Jeanne Jaffe) – *Haystack Mountain School*, Deer Isle, ME
1994 **Jewelry** (Metals - Daniel Jocz) – *Penland School of Crafts*, Penland, NC
1988–1990 **Figure Drawing, Stone Carving, Metals** – *Corcoran School of Art*, Washington, DC

ONGOING ART INSTALLATION PROJECT

Weigh Your Words (<https://weighyourwords.wordpress.com/>) – Interactive installation using stones with words written on them to explore identity, community, and self-awareness – Artomatic (DC) 2012; FIGMENT NY 2013; WISSIT teachers' conference (DC) 2015, 2016, 2017; Atlas Performing Arts Center Intersections Festival (DC) 2016; *Chambers of the Heart*, Word Dance Company (DC) 2016; Project Zero conference (DC) 2016.

RECENT AWARDS

2018 Harrison House, Joshua Tree, CA – Artist Residency (invitational)
2017 Creative Crafts Council Biennial Exhibition – Award for Innovative Use of Material
2015–2019 DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities – Artist Fellowship Grant
2016 James Renwick Alliance commission for a pin to accompany their Chrysalis Award
2015 Washington Sculptors Group Tom Rooney Prize for Excellence in Sculpture
2012 *MetalWork 2012* Washington Guild of Goldsmiths – Jurors' Special Recognition

PUBLICATIONS

“Triangle Pillow Earrings,” *Step by Step Beads*, Spring 2003, Vol.1/1, pp. 18–21.
“Beautiful Boughs,” “Beaded Leaves,” *Step by Step Beads*, Mar/Apr 2006, Vol. 4/2, pp. 30–41.
“Stick Earrings,” *Step by Step Beads*, May/June 2008, Vol. 6, no. 3, p. 44.
“Deliciously Diagonal Beaded Bead,” *Beadwork*, June/July 2008 Vol. 11/4, pp. 64–65.

“Alive to the Possibilities” June 2010/2012 published in *Bourgeon: Fifty Artists Write about their Work*. <http://bourgeononline.com/tag/jessica-beels/>

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Farrell, James, “Making Art with Found Materials,” *Mountain Living*, Fall 2021, <https://www.mountainliving.com/making-art-with-found-materials/>
- “In the Galleries – Artists make use of Asian iconography via paper and sculpture,” *Washington Post*, January 31, 2020, https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-artists-make-use-of-asian-iconography-via-paper-and-sculpture/2020/01/30/5916b69c-415b-11ea-b5fc-eefa848cde99_story.html
- “Abstract Works Recycled Materials Bring Environmental Focus to Dupont Circle,” *The DC Line*, January 23, 2020, <https://thedcline.org/2020/01/23/abstract-works-recycled-materials-bring-environmental-focus-to-dupont-circle-gallery/?fbclid=IwAR1GT0VJ9cLssRuYD6j2EucSgF4GaD504NJQMrGzGW4k-a2wb5fas3arfeg>
- “In the Galleries – ReClaimed ReUsed RePurposed,” *Washington Post*, January 9, 2020, https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-cultures-collisions-climate-change-and-french-connections/2020/01/09/d4d33488-30ab-11ea-a053-dc6d944ba776_story.html
- “In the Galleries – Art of Evolution,” *Washington Post*, August 30, 2019, https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-if-creative-ceramics-are-your-cup-of-tea-go-to-the-renwick-gallery/2019/08/28/660b8e86-c366-11e9-8bf7-cde2d9e09055_story.html
- “In the Galleries – Preconceptual: Zeitgeist IV,” *Washington Post*, March 24, 2017, https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-hand-print-workshop-celebrates-two-colorful-decades/2017/03/24/e0ac7c3c-0d8c-11e7-9d5a-a83e627dc120_story.html
- “Mysterious Materials & Unexpected Scale: The Work of Jessica Beels,” *Fiber Art Now*, Spg 2016
- “Art Studio: Creative Fiber,” *Home and Design*, Fall 2013, <http://www.homeanddesign.com/2013/08/12/art-studio-creative-fiber/>
- “In the path of Leonardo da Vinci: Where art and science collide,” *The Gazette*, March 13, 2013, <http://www.gazette.net/article/20130313/ENTERTAINMENT/130319635/1148/in-the-path-of-leonardo-da-vinci-where-art-and-science-collide&template=gazette>
- “Accidental images and organic forms dominate BlackRock exhibit,” *The Gazette*, May 18, 2011, http://ww2.gazette.net/stories/05182011/entemon95452_32534.php

OTHER MEDIA

- “The Material is the Message: Art in the Time of Climate Change,” video of lecture about my work relating to environmental themes for Woodin Colloquium at Middlebury College, October 2020, <https://vimeo.com/478092364>
- “Voyage of Discovery,” video interview about three-person exhibition/installation for American Association for the Advancement of Science, January 2014, <https://youtu.be/-tFIWf7TY6U>

MEMBERSHIPS

ArtWatch; Fiber Arts Study Group; Handweavers Guild of America, Inc.; James Renwick Alliance; National Basketry Organization; Washington Sculptors Group; Women’s Caucus for Art, DC