

Lanny Bergner

Statement/Bio

Lanny Bergner is a mixed-media sculptor, installation, fiber and sculptural basketry artist. He was born in Anacortes, WA in 1952 and received his BFA in sculpture from the University of Washington in 1981 and an MFA in sculpture from Tyler School of Art, Temple University in 1983. His work is in numerous museum collections including the Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA, Museum of Art and Design, NY, NY and The Central Museum of Textile, Łódź, Poland. In 1995 he won the Betty Bowen Memorial Award, administered by the Seattle Art Museum. In 2005 he won a Gold Prize at the Cheongju International Craft Biennale in Cheongju, Korea. In 2010 he was one of five American artists to exhibit in the prestigious 13th International Triennial of Tapestry in Łódź, Poland. In 2017 his work *Celestial Vessel #7* will be exhibited in “Rooted, Revived, Reinvented: Basketry in America,” a traveling exhibition organized by the National Basketry Organization and the University of Missouri.

The ethereal quality of Lanny’s work is in contrast to the mundane materials he uses to construct them. They are created using industrially woven bronze, brass, aluminum and stainless steel mesh, silicone, wire and glass frit. Using only a linesman pliers and cutting shear, he employs simple joining techniques to transform mesh into semi-transparent organic structures, vessels and geometric constructions. Prior to construction he employs pyrography techniques to “flame paint” abstract imagery onto 2D sheets of stainless steel mesh using a propane/butane torch.

Lanny’s works reference biomorphic forms (plant biology, microorganisms, undersea creatures), earth geology and cosmology. They engage the viewer with glimpses into a world where nature and manmade material coalesce and they celebrate the mystery and wonder of it all.

He has been creating biomorphic and geometric constructions and installations out of metal mesh since 1983. He maintains a studio on Fidalgo Island near Anacortes, WA.