

Dave Strobel Glass Works

Merging old world glass techniques with contemporary themes are the foundation of Dave Strobel's unique glass creations. Says Dave, "I've drawn most of my life, many of my early memories are of coloring books tracing images. The joy I got coloring as a child, I have today for my glass. The passion in my work is being able to share my joy with others." Working with borosilicate glass and using a large torch, Dave pushes the boundaries of his industry with beautifully rendered pictures in glass. Strobel's articulate work explores themes that are sometimes haunting, sometimes whimsical, but always amazingly detailed. His glass pictures, called 'murrine' are the result of hundreds and sometimes thousands of strokes of different colored hot glass to produce one picture. Once an image is completed, it's heated and reduced in size allowing it to be cut into several slices and polished to be used in various glass creations, or simply collected. With more than 25 years of glassblowing, and a lifetime of illustrating, Dave Strobel's murrine creations are truly unique.

"Glassblowing for me has always been a relationship built from respect," he says. "As much as I want to control every aspect of what I create, the process of creation in glass must be approached with some loss of control to be successful. In this way glass is a great metaphor for my life-rigidity, most of the time, will yield failure. Working with glass that is over 2000F degrees requires meticulous planning, creativity is timeless and needs the ability to roam unfettered. Combining the two is a challenge, but one that leads me to my best work." While known mostly for his collectable murrine, Dave has a large collector base for his functional pieces, tiles, paperweights, and marbles. Dave lives and works in Oregon, USA. ■
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