

Ali Rogan
CAC Studio School Instructor
Co-Owner of Cristallo Artisans in Newport News, VA



Templin Falls: The Poetry of Movement in Glass

Growing up in Michigan, the Great Lake state, I was surrounded by large bodies of water. Since 1988, I have lived in Virginia and treasure this coastal peninsula. Water was always a part of my life. I spent countless hours observing its majestic and poetic movement. While walking along the shores of my beloved Lake Superior I collected stones -- my pocket full of friends to keep me company. The connection with water and stones became a lifetime relationship for me, having begun when I was but a quiet young girl.

I was inspired to share a deeply rooted knowledge of nature. It became a commitment of entrusted responsibility that continues to germinate creative seeds. Reflective observations were the muse to this seductive, viscous substance called glass. I wanted to emulate the relationship of water with the beauty of its natural surroundings to capture a small part of a life I deeply value. It really was as simple as that. The work, however, of creating art that could accomplish that, was much more intense. What the mind and heart knows effortlessly may take years to decipher artistically. Being a witness to life and sharing this experience is a way that transforms one form into another and completes a circle, a circle that always begins with self.

-Ali Rogan

11835 Canon Boulevard, Suite C104
Newport News VA 23606
757.596.3551

rogan@cristalloartisans.com

<http://www.cristalloartisans.com/alirogan/index.html>



CONTEMPORARY ART
CENTER of VIRGINIA

2200 Parks Ave | Virginia Beach, VA 23451
757.425.0000 | www.cacv.org

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Short Bio

Ali Rogan has been an award-winning artist and teacher for over 20 years. Since 1999 she has been a partner/owner of Cristallo Artisans. Ms. Rogan has been an instructor at the Governor's School for the Arts, Norfolk, Virginia since 1998, and an Instructor/Faculty with the Contemporary Arts Center in Virginia Beach, Virginia since 1998. She is a past President and Board Member of the Peninsula Glass Guild in Virginia and Board Member for Tidewater Community College, Portsmouth, Virginia. In 2003 Ms. Rogan received a Teaching Fellowship from the SURDNA Foundation, NY, NY. In 2007, she received the Peninsula Glass Guild of Virginia Glass Scholarship Award. She continues to teach a variety of glass workshops throughout Hampton Roads to help further the exploration of contemporary glass. Ms. Rogan pursues her personal studies in art at schools including Pilchuck Glass School, The Studio at Corning Glass Museum, Penland School of Crafts, and Tidewater Community College. She has studied glass under the guidance of Czech maestros Juri Harcuba and Martin Rosol, Japan's glass casting pioneers, Shin-ichi and Kimiaki Higuchi, Italian cameo engraver, Michaela Rinaldo, Seattle's glass painting virtuoso, Cappy Thompsen, VCU's past glass professor, Kent Ipsen, plus many others.



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