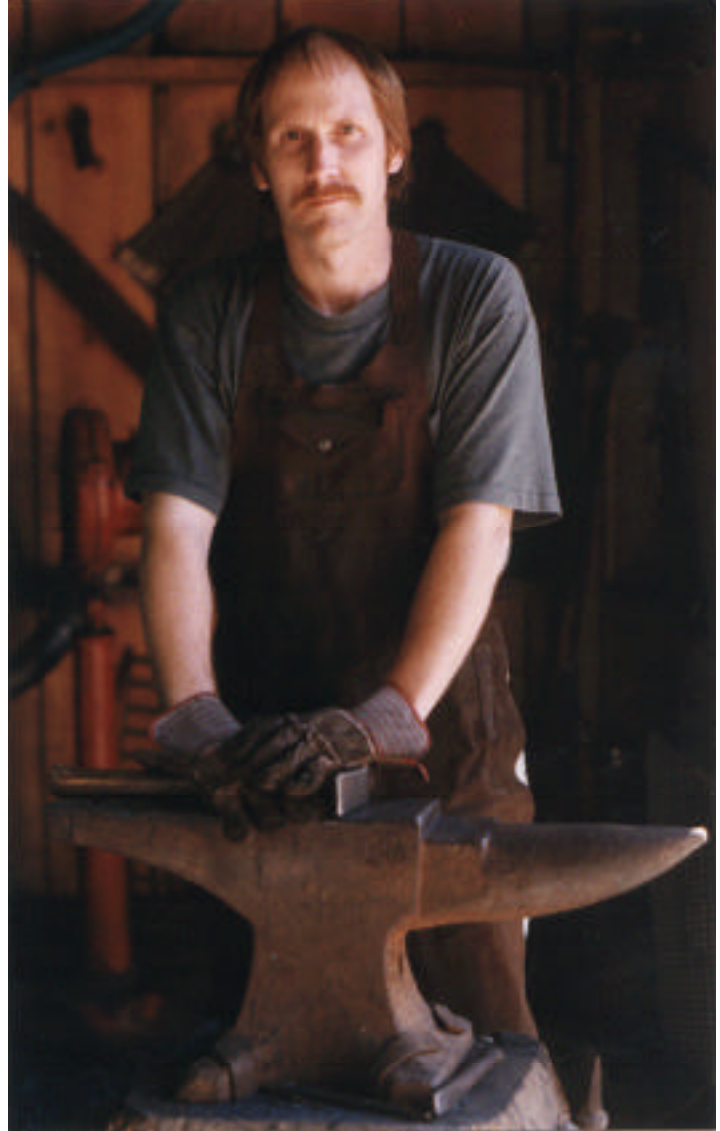


ARTIST'S STATEMENT

I describe myself as a 'contemporary traditionalist'. In response to our rapidly changing environment, social structure, and culture, much of our society is filled with a desire to discard anything that's considered old. In the rush to do so, we've forgotten much that we've learned.

My artwork is a mix of traditional tools and techniques with contemporary applications. The tradition of shaping iron with fire and hammer was a pivotal aspect of human evolution and remains as one of the foundations of our modern society. Through the exploration of these skills, I find new forms that are valid in today's world... expressed as unique artwork and functional accessories.

Ideally I strive for all my pieces to work equally well as both decorative object and functional object. The ultimate application of the piece- and its value- depends on the viewer and her/his needs. To satisfy these needs while creating a vehicle of personal expression is, to me, the highest compliment.



Artist-Blacksmith Brian Gilbert creates ironwork with processes that haven't changed much over thousands of years. Steel is heated in a coal or gasfiredforge to very high temperatures and shaped by hammer into objects of art and utility.

ARTIST'S RESUME

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

BGilbert, Blacksmith- Owner/Sole Proprietor 3/93-present

Supervised all aspects of a small arts-based business operation, from concept to installation of hand-forged functional artworks in contemporary and traditional styles.

EDUCATION

M.A.in Media Arts
University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. 12/92
B.A. in Media Arts
University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. 12/82

EXHIBITIONS

Homeworks
Florida Craftsmen Gallery, St. Petersburg, FL 10/ 94
Windows '96
TACA/ Blue Cross, Chattanooga, TN 9/96
The Tennessee Designer/Craftsmen Invitational
Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN 3/97
Art In The City- Mayor's purchase award
City Hall, Chattanooga, TN 6/99

GALLERIES

Prairie House - Springfield, 11-
Smiling Owl Gallery -Tullahoma, TN
Newbill Collection By The Sea- Seaside, FL
Uncommon Objects- Oberlin, OH
A Mano Gallery- Lambertville, NJ
Studio 109 Sculpture Gallery- Madison, WI, and New York, NY

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Art and Kate Schaeffer- Maylene, AL
Tom and Suzanne Boisvert- St. Petersburg, FL
Martha Stanford- Chattanooga, TN
Paul and Susan Brock- Lookout Mountain, TN
George Rahdert - St. Petersburg, FL
Dr. Danielle Frank- Chattanooga, TN

NOTICES AND REVIEWS

"Smithery", The Tampa Tribune, July 1994
"Southern Accents", WTCI-TV, April 1998
"Forging and Old-Fashioned Career", the Chattanooga Free Press, Feb 1999

TEACHING, LECTURES/DEMONSTRATIONS

Heritage Village- Largo, FL
Pinellas Pioneer Settlement- St. Petersburg, FL.
Chattanooga Arts Center- Chattanooga, TN
Boy Scouts of America- Ft. Loudon, TN
Southeast Regional Meeting, ABANA- Chattanooga, TN
Prater's Mill Crafts Festival - Calhoun, CrA
National Combread Festival- S. Pittsburg, TN
Scopes Festival, Dayton, TN

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Artist Blacksmiths Association of North America (ABANA)
Appalachian Area Chapter ABANA
Alabama Forge Council
Association of Visual Artists

