

CARMEN VETTER**Bio**

Carmen Vetter studied visual art at the University of Nebraska in Omaha and has been working with kilnformed glass since 1999. She was a finalist in Bullseye Glass Company's biennial Emerge competition in 2006, and again in 2008. Vetter participated in the *InPlace* residency at North Lands Creative Glass in Lybster, Scotland in 2011. She has served as a guest lecturer at Pilchuck Glass School and exhibited in both group and solo exhibitions. Vetter lives and works in Portland, Oregon.

Statement

My work is, at its most basic, a study of surface, texture, and pattern. I have always been drawn to repeating pattern, perhaps because of its universality. I am looking for connectivity, commonness, and relationship. The finished work could be observed as eroded stone, cellular structure, and lichen; or on a macro level as aerial views of cities, land formations, glaciers, and coastlines. The relationship between these surfaces and the things that underlay them--their unique histories, the unseen events that preceded them and created them, the mystery of what they are becoming--is what truly interests me. I seek the intrinsic. Much of my work in glass has been about surface. It infers touch, the seen, the exposed, and inversely the depths beneath. It is exposes and reveals, considering the relationship and similarities in things both colossal and infinitesimal. The removal of unanimated material discloses both the intimate and the unfamiliar, joining concept and process. I like the big picture. My work is a way of connecting the dots. I am inspired by the patterns of life, cycles of destruction and renewal, and the interrelation of everything. Surface is what we see, but only the indicator of what cannot be seen....Surface is the effect of the cause.