

## **NANCY BLAIR**

### **Bio**

I am fascinated with finding sacred meaning in everyday objects, lost and found and then reinterpreted again. The blue Relic series is a process of alchemical transformation and shamanic meaning. I find basically meaningless objects, make molds of them being mindful of their origins, their uses, their finality and their eventual obsolescence. I use 'royal' blue glass to impart a sense of royalty, uplifting them to a new and more meaningful presence in the world. A tossed aside bolt become a sacred object; an empty nasal spray bottle becomes an object of veneration, etc...the profane becomes sacred as the ordinary takes on the extra-ordinary in a new form and color. I am a shaman, witch, priestess and diviner...an artist in the original sense!"

Nancy Blair is both an artist and published author. Everything she experiences, touches, picks up on the beach or on the street, or grows in her garden gives influence to her art. She received a BFA from Alfred University in New York and an MFA from Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts in New Jersey. In 2014 and 2015 she was invited to be a resident artist at the Dream Community Cultural Foundation in Taipei, Taiwan. Her work has been commissioned by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Oliver Stone's The Doors Project, the Franklin Mint, and the United States Olympic Equestrian Museum.

### **Statement**

Nancy Blair is an artist and published author. She received her BFA from Alfred University in New York and an MFA from Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts in New Jersey. She is a recent recipient of the prestigious Hauberg Fellowship at Pilchuck Glass School where she was also a Professional Artist in Residence, instructor, scholarship recipient, and teaching assistant. She has been a teaching assistant at The Studio of the Corning Museum of Glass in New York, and the Creative Glass Center of America at Wheaton Village in Millville, New Jersey. She is represented by Traver Gallery.

Her mostly narrative sculptures and mixed media works include glass, ceramics and found objects. She has exhibited her art both internationally and nationally, and has been commissioned by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, The Franklin Mint, The Women's National Education Association, and the United States Olympic Equestrian Museum. Her goddess sculpture was selected for inclusion in Oliver Stone's movie, The Doors.

Nancy has written five books on ancient art, myth and mystery. Her recent book, *Thank You, Your Opinion Means Nothing To Me*, a snarky memoir about mid-life, is published by HarperCollinsPublishers. She received critical acclaim in USAWeekend Magazine, Publisher's Weekly, and a highly-regarded review by Olympia Dukakis. She has been interviewed internationally for radio and television, and was featured in a PBS special.

She is represented by Traver Gallery with an upcoming solo exhibition of glass sculpture in May 2009 at the Tacoma location. Her mostly narrative sculptures and installation works combine cast glass, ceramics, photography, works on paper, found objects and a series of videos entitled "One Minutes Meds." Her glass sculpture is in the collection of Elton John.

Of Myth and Memory includes sculptures from "The Royal Medicine Dog" and "The Golden Retriever" series. I've created a quirky pack of "animal spirits" who act as magical guides, healers, hell-raisers, silly clowns, and serious teachers who remind us that nothing is ever what it seems. In addition, there are over 100 cast glass objects, talismans for contemplation, and a video entitled "One Minute Meds" a collection of short "meditations."