

Lesley Aine Mckeown

American Studio Art Jewelry

For me creating and breathing are the same thing. From the time I was a small child I was given tools to make things and an environment that inspired me. I am drawn to exploration to the process of creativity. I am always learning and the next piece is my favorite.

I design with a mind to form and negative space. My techniques are low tech using traditional metal smithing tools. The use of unique stones are often the inspiration of a design. I work primarily in sterling silver, high karat gold, designer cabochons and gemstones.

Each piece is created in my studio in the tradition of the American Studio Art Jewelry movement of the 1940's through the 60's, which dictates that the work is created entirely in the artist's studio.

It is my hope that the wearer of my work will identify with something in the piece that speaks their aesthetic and deeper less tangible emotions thus completing the creative circle.



Contact

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Education

Professional Jeweler Sole proprietor – Lesley Aine McKeown Design Studio Sedona/Prescott 1984-2022
Apprentice Silversmith Sedona, AZ - Jed Deustchman 1980 - 1983
Mokume-Gane Robert Coogan MAKR – Metal Art Study, Mendocino, CA 1993
Hollow & Shell Forming Betty Helen Longhi MAKR – Metal Art Study, Mendocino, CA 1995
Keum-boo Komelia Okim MAKR – Metal Art Study, Mendocino, CA 1995
Anticlastic & Synclastic Jack da Silva MAKR – Metal Art Study, Mendocino, CA 1994
Polychrome on Metal Marilyn da Silva MAKR – Metal Art Study, Mendocino, CA 1994
Chasing and Repousse – David Huang – Urban Metal Studio, Mesa, AZ, 2021
Hammer setting – Jewel Clark – MESA Community College – Mesa, AZ 2019
Reticulation – Harold O'Connor – COMA – Boulder, CO. 2021
Gemstone Carving – Ryan Gardener – Metalwerx, Boston, PA, 2021
Lapidary – 4 years – Yavapai Community College – Keith Horst, Prescott, AZ
Intarisia - 2 years - Yavapai Community College – Keith Horst
Colored Gemstones – GIA - 2021
Making 24kt gold Bi-metal - Alex Boyd – Metalwerx, Boston, PA, 2021

Skills and Experienc

Professional Jeweler Sole proprietor – Lesley Aine McKeown Design Studio 1984- 2022
Sedona Youth Arts Council Youth Arts Instructor - 1990
Sedona Sculpture Walk Jury and Artist Committee Sedona Sculpture Walk 1998
Jewelry Basics Instructor Coconinno Center for the Arts 1992
Art Therapy Instructor Cayuse Kids – Autistic Art Therapy – 1994
Sedona Sculpture Walk Jury and Artist Committee Sedona Sculpture Walk 1998
Art in Public Places Board City of Sedona 1998
Sedona Arts Center Instructor – Jewelry 1999
Gifted Hands Gallery, Tlaqueapque, Sedona, Owner AZ 2006 -2010
Jewelry Instructor Privates instruction Education Director Granite Mountain Jewelry Artists 2016-2017
Social Media Director – David Brill Congressional Campaign – 2018
Communications Director – Yavapai County Democratic Party – 2019 -2021
Juror Sedona Arts Festival - 2020
Advanced Techniques Studies Instructor, The Makery University, Bulverde, TX 2019- 2021
Metalwerx Instructor, Boston, PA 2022

Selected Awards, Exhibitions

Best of Show -High Design Jewelry ACRE, Las Vegas, NV 2015
Artist in Residence/ Mendocino Arts Center, Mendocino, CA - 2000
Trappings of the American West / Northern Arizona Museum, Flagstaff, Wickenburg Museum, Phippen Museum, AZ 2004 -2019
Coconino Center for the Arts / It's Elemental Exhibition Flagstaff, AZ 2001
Art of the American West / Houston Contemporary Craft Museum ,Houston, TX 2000
Trappings of the American West / Phoenix Sky Harbor Museum, Phoenix, AZ 1999
Winter Arts Exhibition / Broderick Castle Isle of Arran, Scotland, U.K. 1998
Trading Places Exhibition Taos, NM 1997
Women Artists of the West / Sedona Arts Center, Sedona, AZ ongoing.

Current Memberships

Society of North American Goldsmiths
Florida Society of Goldsmiths
Arizona Designer Craft & Art
American Craft Council
Artfulhome
AGTA – American Gem Trade Assoc.
GIA - Gemological Institute of America, Alumni
Art Jewelry Forum
Ganoksin
Craft Haus
Klimt1