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## Mia Law [Artist's Statement]

Mia

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## Mia Law

I was born in the small bay town of East Rockaway, New York and currently reside in Providence, Rhode Island. I attended Carnegie Mellon University where in '87 I received a BFA with a double major in painting and glass. Since college, I have taught art classes in Poughkeepsie and Rhinebeck (NY) community centers; and here in Rhode Island I was a directors assistant at Warwick Museum. I have participated in group shows both at CMU and Architects Gallery in Rhode Island.

Aside from painting, wood sculpture is an interest of mine. One such piece I completed was a mahogany relief of "Madonna of the Caves" after Leonardo da Vinci. Glass, however, is a greater passion of mine. The transparent layering that I produce in vessels as well as in sculpture with this medium, has influenced my painting to such an extent that I see the canvas almost as stained glass.

I also enjoy designing and making one of a kind objects as part of a team with my husband. In the past, we have made a domed brass bird cage, brass wind chimes adorned with ancient Greek figures, and a cherry sleigh bed/crib for our baby that is on the way.

Over the past few years, I have travelled quite extensively both in and out of the country. From Paris, I took home Matisse's and Manet's use of flat shapes of color. In Rome and Florence I was greatly affected by Michelangelo's strong figures. I not only try to incorporate in my paintings what I learned from his use of the human body but also his use of religious ecstasy as a continuous theme throughout his work. Visiting Amsterdam, I was awe struck by the elegance of the Dutch masters, Rembrandt and Vermeer. I was so taken that I did a self portrait with those 17th century paintings in mind. I have also travelled throughout America: New Orleans, California, Arizona, New York, Boston, etc. stopping always to view various museums and galleries and taking with me new ideas.

In the near future, I will be moving to upstate New York where I plan to have a glass as well as a painting studio, and I will continue to strive for beauty and perfection in my art.