

# Wayne Werner



My work is a celebration of life and our journey through it, a testimony to its splendor. It is about my personal wonderment of the conception of our species. It is about forces that are held in the stars and the bodies of humanity, driving forces of life and nature. I see myself as a poet who cannot write, as Thoth the Scribe, who uses a flame for a pen. I am Hermes delivering a message as old as time. The purpose is to show micro and macro forces of nature that affect the everyday life of the being—the internal forces of love and sex as well as the external forces driving us to space exploration and divine enlightenment. My jewelry is about the love of Isis, Artemis, Mother Nature, the Gods of fertility, and the miracle of birth. I seek to possess the philosopher's stone, transforming the minds of those who view my work. I wish to give people a chance to embrace something magical inside themselves.

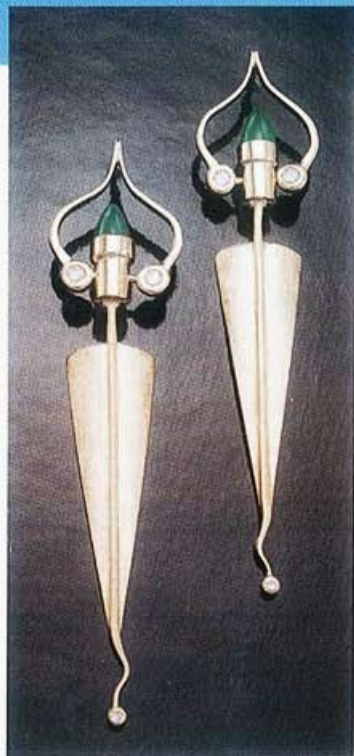
I see my job as being an orchestrator of light or *Lux Aeternus*. So my work deals with light and its manipulation. I begin with pieces of flat sheet and round wire made of gold or platinum. I hammer the pieces with a polished hammer on a polished anvil to give them strength and form. I achieve a great deal of light-play by incorporating mirrored chambers, parabolic dishes, and convex disks similar to the Sun Ra on the head of Isis. I assemble the forged elements into pieces of wearable sculpture. These microforgings are very

labor-of-love intensive and are designed to stand the test of time. My aesthetic is that of natural forms such as pods, leaves, flowers, sperm, eggs, DNA, silhouettes of bodies and fluid compositions. I like to create solid liquid forms reminiscent of our original composition or opus. I find the juxtaposition of toolmarked, brushed and polished surfaces to be harmonious to the eye. I also enjoy different alloys for color. I choose stones to accent my pieces but I do not want them to dominate the message of the subconscious poems I am creating. The dance of life that I document must reflect the splendor of the sun; the techniques I use are to capture the forbidden gaze into the sun.

I am inspired by fertility ceremonies, cremations, sacred shores, the geometry of the universe, Masonry and by seeing the world in its constant state of rejuvenation. I am inspired by being thirty-three in the year 2000 and being at the great pyramids of Egypt for an indoctrination into a new universal mindset. I love to study the stories of the Golem, Adam and Eve, Paracelsus Homunculus and Mozart's Magic Flute. I enjoy Lalique's Cult of the Flower and the psychedelic art of Rick Griffin.

I have little formal art training. I have taken my lessons as if I were a bee going from flower to flower extracting what information I could through workshops, mentors and personal experiments. With eyes wide open I have traveled around

## Artist Statement



LIFE DROPS 1 EARRINGS, of eighteen karat gold, chrysoprase and diamonds, 5.1 x 1.25 x 0.6 centimeters, 1997.



RENDEZVOUS WITH MARY BROOCH, of eighteen karat gold, platinum, diamond, lapis, black pearl and chrysocolia; 5.1 x 3.2 x 0.6 centimeters, 1998. Right: ISIS VESSEL BROOCH/VESSEL, of eighteen karat gold, Ceylon sapphires, boulder opal and black pearl; 7.0 x 2.5 x 6.3 centimeters, 2000.



LOTUS BRACELET, of eighteen karat gold, diamonds and watermelon tourmaline; 5.7 x 6.3 x 2.5 centimeters, 2000. Wayne Werner's jewelry ranges in price from six hundred fifty to forty-two hundred dollars.

the world making pilgrimages to schools, galleries, museums and artists of the highest caliber. My greatest joy comes from sitting down with an experienced metalsmith gaining knowledge passed down through time. I have done this from the back alleys of old Cairo, Istanbul and Florence to the *kris* makers in the jungles of Java. There is something very grounding about this means of study; it reminds me how much I love my job and how blessed I am to possess talent.

When I have gone to decay in the continual rotation of this earth, the work of my mind, body and spirit will remain as a testimony of how amazing it was to have been here in the first place.

Artist Wayne Werner resides in Forest Hill, Maryland.