

# Jill Parisi

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## *Artist Statement*

My artistic focus is the creation of invented botanical and zoological species. Using this premise, I explore the innate possibilities that printmaking, handmade paper, and drawing offer for the expression of an appreciation of humanity and sensitivity for the environment. The individual elements that comprise my work begin as two dimensional prints and drawings. Precise hand cutting, hand coloring and pyrographic techniques are employed; then I transform these elements sculpturally, or interpret them digitally as designs for translation into glass or other media.

Sometimes the pieces that I create are used as components for large installations that react to viewer proximity, fluttering in response to the air currents within an interior space, the outdoors, or the movements of passers by. Mirroring an ecosystem, these imaginary worlds also demonstrate the richness and beauty that diversity affords communities, and the importance of each individual within their surroundings.

Recently I have been exploring the possibilities of using video; and for making public art with durable materials. Capturing and projecting the lively movements of my most ephemeral works, or transcribing them into the glass medium, where the effects of light are ever changing, have been fascinating to explore and have proven themselves as highly effective new means for sharing my work with a wide variety of audiences.