Mixed-Media

Mixed media craftsmen combine two or more different media to create something that is truly unique. Sometimes the work is done by one person. Other times it is a collaboration between two craftspeople.

Dan Neil Barnes is classified as both a glass artist and a mixed media artist. His primary medium is glass, but he was not satisfied with traditional glass working methods. He uses metal and turned wood to create sculptures that show off the luminous quality of glass.

Linda Fifield combines skills in two different crafts in order to give her beadwork a 3D appearance. She begins by turning hollow vessels from wood. Using an intricate beading stitch, she encases the vessels in glass beads. She harvests the wood that forms the core of her work from her family’s land. Her love of nature inspires her designs.

Robin and Mary Reed use natural materials that they harvest themselves. Individually, each is considered a craftsperson using natural/organic materials. Mary works with corn shucks to make flowers, dolls, and angels. Robin uses bark from hickory or poplar trees to create baskets. When they combine their artistry, they create mixed media work.

Arturo Alonzo Sandoval focuses on the techniques of weaving and interlacing. He uses a variety of unusual materials to create large, innovative forms. In this piece, he wove together recycled auto industry Mylar, recycled library 35 mm microfilm, netting, monofilament and multi-colored threads, plaited braid, Pellon, and polymer medium. He used fabric for the backing.

Mixing media allows artists to achieve results not possible with just one medium.