



JAMES RENWICK ALLIANCE FOR CRAFT



2021 MASTER OF THE MEDIUM Preston Singletary

"My work with glass transforms the notion that Native artists are only best when traditional materials are used. It has helped advocate on the behalf of all indigenous people—affirming that we are still here—that we are declaring who we are through our art in connection to our culture. I have been honored that my success has inspired other artists from underrepresented indigenous cultures to use glass and other non-traditional materials in their work, and hope that I can continue to encourage more innovation in this area as my career progresses."

The art of Preston Singletary has become synonymous with the relationship between European glass blowing traditions and Northwest Native art. Singletary learned the art of glass blowing by working with artists in the Seattle area including Benjamin Moore and Dante Marioni. As a student and assistant, he initially focused on mastering the techniques of the European tradition. His work took him to Kosta Boda (Sweden) where he studied Scandinavian design and met his future wife. Throughout his 30+ years of glass blowing experience, he has also had opportunities to learn the secrets of the Venetian glass masters by working with Italian legends Lino Tagliapietra, Cecco Ongaro, and Pino Signoretto. In 2010, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Arts degree from the University of Puget Sound. Recognized internationally, Singletary's artworks are included in museum collections such as The British Museum in London, The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the Seattle Art Museum in Washington, the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, New York,, the Mint Museum of Art and Design in Charlotte, North Carolina, the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona, and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.

Learn more about JRA Craft Weekend: www.jra.org/jracraft-weekend



The **James Renwick Alliance** is an independent national non-profit organization that celebrates the achievements of America's craft artists and fosters scholarship, education, connoisseurship and public appreciation of craft art. If you are not already a member, we invite you to become one. More information about us can be found on our website.