

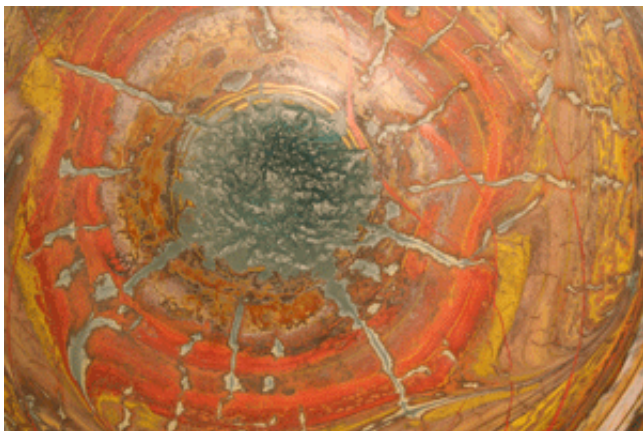
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Davis Glass: Where art and nature meet and meld

By [Jessica Kronika](#), Chicago Fine Arts Examiner

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Artists Jared and Nicole Davis, of Crawford, Colorado, work with liquid glass and glass powders to create works that reflect the cliffs, trees and beauty of their home landscape. Through a collaborative process, each piece is hand crafted at the glory hole, heating the slow liquid to molten glow before shaping and coating in powdered glass. A final step of sand blasting reveals the luminous transparent glass beneath the layer of opaque powders.



Detail, sandblasting texture, Morrison Formation series with light, taken at Davis Glass Booth, One of a Kind Show 2009, Chicago, IL. Photo by Carol Johnson.

Jared Davis got his start in glass while attending the Pratt Fine Arts Center in Seattle, Washington. In the Italian style, his skills were honed before he was invited to study Swedish techniques in Transjo, Sweden under masters Jan-Erik Ritzman and Swen Ake Carlsson. Italian glass is traditionally functional, with decorative works a relatively recent development. The comparable Scandinavian tradition developed from a migration of Murano glass makers from Italy around the fourteenth century C. E. Styles from Sweden reflect a trend towards more modern design applications and decoration.



Desert Spire with light, Desert Formation series, taken at Davis Glass Booth, One of a Kind Show 2009, Chicago, IL. Photo by Carol Johnson.

Jared and his wife, Nicole both work in the medium, assisting in each other's projects, and maintaining unique styles. Jared's signature vases and lamps, such as And ... show the minimalist aesthetic and a desire for practical uses in beautiful forms. Nicole's signature antler chandeliers take their inspiration from the horns of animals and traditional western designs. Their clear, amber, black or opalescent white glass interacts dramatically with the lights set at the chandelier's center.



Detail, antler chandelier, photo courtesy of mountain living and north rim glass.*

Working together, Jared and Nicole run Davis Glass and their own studio and gallery North Rim Glass Studio, LLC. Their inspirations include the painted desert and its formations, ghostly white birches, and animals.



Swedish Birch series II, taken at Davis Glass Booth, One of a Kind Show 2009, Chicago, IL. Photo by Carol Johnson.

For more information:

Visit Davis Glass: <http://www.jareddavis.com/page.cfm?pageid=8937>

Visit North Rim Glass Studio: <http://www.northrimglass.com/>

Watch these artists sculpt glass:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-BbEZw3gAM>

Glassblowing techniques:

<http://www.justglass-online.com/glass-art/murano-glass-and-glassmaking-techniques.html>

*Read the highlight on Nicole Davis' Antler Chandelier, in Mountain Living:

<http://www.northrimglass.com/page.cfm?pageid=14562>

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