

BIOGRAPHY

Jennifer Zurick is a self-taught artist specializing in black willow bark which she has been harvesting and weaving into baskets since 1980. She is the recipient of a 2010 United States Artists Fellowship and two Kentucky Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowships and was selected for the 1999 Kentucky Arts Council Cultural Exchange Residency in Ecuador. Her work is included in a number of museum collections, including the Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian Museum of American Art, and has won prizes and awards at national exhibitions and shows.

ARTIST STATEMENT

I aspire to create simple, elegant woven vessels that possess a richness of spirit and a presence embodying the soul of the tree from which they came. A fascination with old tribal textiles, finely woven functional containers and ancient processes fuels my inclination to manipulate fiber. Employing various weaving techniques to inject texture and rhythmic design elements, I draw significantly upon the inspiration of early Native American and contemporary Japanese basketry. As my work evolves, I am compelled to create more intricate, textile-like woven forms, finding great satisfaction in emulating the art and integrity of fine basketry.