



## ARCHITECTURAL GLASS ART, INC.

### ABOUT MY WORK

From my education as an architect, I am primarily concerned with the relationship between my work and the buildings of which they are a part. Harmonious integration, which is my ultimate objective, is achieved when the work expresses a visual dialogue with the architecture thereby making the environment more expressive, as well as more meaningful for those who use the building. For this reason, I approach each project individually and develop designs that are responsive to the particular character and the specific needs of each building. As a result of this concern, I am more interested in the sympathetic interaction between my work and its environment than in the gratification of a personal expression.

Because of my training as an artist and craftsman, I am concerned with the poetic expression of glass as it is animated with light. I use glass to transform light in a manner appropriate to each location as well as to enhance and celebrate its intrinsic qualities. I begin a design with the objective of employing glass to make the available light more dynamic and to appropriately incorporate the exterior view.

In developing color within the composition, I start with the colors that are seen through the window and then augment these with glass colors that are appropriate for the function of the window and the way in which it is viewed. I prefer simple, refined color compositions because of the power of colored light and its potential to interrupt an architectural space and, therefore, use color primarily for its emotional influence.

As both an artist and an architect, I am very concerned with how a work of art is perceived and understood within its architectural context. In developing a design, I am particularly concerned that the composition involves a viewer mentally and visually in the appropriate manner for its location and function. In works that express a literal theme, I prefer universal rather than specific themes, and compose them in a manner to encourage the viewer to develop their own personal interpretation, rather than just visually reiterating a belief or idea. I believe that if a viewer is to really understand a concept they have to mentally construct their own meaning, and that it is art's role to assist, encourage, inspire, and direct this effort.

The challenge of architectural art is to be able to "speak" to future generations, as well as to the one during which it is created. It is for this reason that I generally prefer "classical" expressions rather than a contemporary visual vernacular. This is not to mean a classical style, but rather a universal expression that will grow with time and not be dated by period. To achieve this I develop compositions with the visual expression of a universal dualism, such as static/fluid, ordered/spontaneous, natural/geometric, ornamental/expressionistic, etc. Not only does the expression of these relationships create a visual dynamic, but it is also universally understood among all periods and cultures as an expression of the dynamic, vibrant quality of life.

These principles have become the foundation of my work and, as such, have provided a variety of solutions for a diversity of situations. Because each project is uniquely different, I search for design solutions that reflect and glorify the uniqueness of each location. It is this objective of creating works that relate to their environment that distinguishes my work as architectural art rather than gallery art, created for its own sake.

Kenneth F. vonRoenn, Jr.

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