

*Suzzette Holmes*

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### **Biography**

A native Midwesterner, I moved to the North Carolina Outer Banks fifteen years ago and have fallen in love with the peaceful influences of beach life. I have participated in numerous Fine Arts and Craft shows and gallery exhibits in Indiana, Kentucky, Nevada, New Jersey, New York City, North Carolina and Pennsylvania and in the Wholesale Crafts ACRE Show in Las Vegas. I received my Precious Metal Clay (PMC) certification from the PMC Guild/Rio Grande at the Chris Darway Design Studios in New Jersey, and enrolled in the Professional Jewelry Program at the College of the Albemarle in 2018. The classes at COA broadened my knowledge and appreciation of the art of jewelry design and encouraged and expanded my use of silver, copper and various other metals in construction.

### **Artist Statement**

Prior to moving to the Outer Banks I was fortunate enough to live in various states in the East, Midwest, South and Southwest and found constant inspiration for jewelry designs in my surroundings wherever I lived. For me, the jewelry I create is an expression of a personal connection with my surroundings and my surroundings are a source of learning and improvement as a designer. My goal is always to create a unique design that is comfortable and will be enjoyed for years.

Metalsmithing is exciting in the freedom it grants to use limitless materials and creativity in design and construction of a piece of jewelry. I work in numerous metals including but not limited to silver, copper, and brass, and I incorporate various metalsmithing techniques that include riveting, sawing, piercing, forging, forming, torch firing and enameling. There is an incredible sense of accomplishment and harmony in taking a flat sheet of metal and birthing a wearable piece of jewelry to share.