

Born: Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., March 25, 1951

B.F.A. Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, R.I., U.S.A., 1973

### **Education**

1979

Rhode Island School of Design, Special Student Advanced Glass Program  
(Fall Semester)

1973

Pilchuck Glass Center, Stanwood, Washington, Independent degree project  
video/glass/sculpture (August)

1973

B.F.A. Rhode Island School of Design, Rhode Island

1971

Pilchuck Glass Center, Stanwood, Washington, Glassblowing Workshop (June  
thru August)

1970

Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deere Isle, Maine, Glassblowing  
Workshop (August)

### **Honors**

2015

2015 Visionary Award, Smithsonian & Smithsonian Women's Committee

2013

2013 Glass in Venice Award, Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti and  
the Fondazione Musei Civici di Venezia

Women's Center of Rhode Island Annual Women of Excellence Award

2009

American Craft Council College of Fellows

2006

Rhode Island Pell Award for Excellence in the Arts

1999

"Innovation in a Glassworking Technique", UrbanGlass Annual Award, U.S.A.

1997

Die Bayerische Staatsregierung, Munich, Germany  
The Bavarian State Government prize

1988

Rakow Commission, Corning Museum of Glass, U.S.A.

1986

National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artist Fellowship, U.S.A.

1984

Research Grant, Stichting Klankschap (Foundation), Amsterdam, the  
Netherlands, Music recording and research, Ghana (1984-1985)

1982

National Endowment for the Arts, Emerging Visual Artist Fellowship  
Pilchuck Glass Center, Stanwood, Washington, Artist-in-Residence (August)

1981-82

New York State Council on the Arts, Artist-in-Residence Grant in  
conjunction with the New York Experimental Glass Workshop

**Guest Lecturer/Visiting Artist**

2015

Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, Virginia (September 2015)

Pittsburgh Glass Center, Pittsburgh, PA (September 2015)

The Smithsonian Craft Show (April 2015), guest speaker, Washington, DC

Sandra Ainsley Gallery, Toronto, Canada

Hooks Epstein Gallery, Houston, Texas

2014

Habatat Galleries, West Palm Beach Florida

2013

Museum of Art Rhode Island School of Design, lecture and Demo

National American Glass Club, in collaboration with The New Bedford Museum  
of Glass

Ohio State University, Cleveland, Ohio, Visiting artist and lecturer

2012

SOFA Chicago, *Pioneers of American Studio Glass, Part Two* panel discussion

Corning Museum of Glass "Celebrating 50 Years of American Studio Glass" seminar . *The Double X Factor* by Toots Zynsky

Smithsonian American Art Museum, Renwick Gallery, Washington, DC

Glass Art Society 2012 Conference, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo OH, History Panel Bill Warmus

Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA

2010

Harvard University, visiting lecturer

SOFA WEST, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Guest Lecture Series: Artist Mentor Discussion: Toots Zynsky and Harue Shimomoto

2009

SOFA WEST, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Guest Lecture Series: Open Doors

Nantucket Atheneum, Nantucket, MA Guest Lecture Series

2008

Museum of Art Rhode Island School of Design Tuesday Talks Lecture Series

Alberta College of Art and Design, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Living Glass History Project, in-studio live webcam video conference guest lecturer/interactive interview ("virtual" visiting artist educational program pilot course).

2006

Toots Zynsky lecture and workshop, Fundacion Centro Nacional del Vidrio, La Granja de San Ildefonso, Segovia, Spain

2005

Notojima Glass Art Museum, Notojima-machi, Japan, Toots Zynsky Lecture and Workshop

Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI, U.S.A, Guest Lecturer

College for Creative Studies, Detroit, MI, U.S.A., Guest Lecturer

2004

Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, N.Y, U.S.A, Guest Lecturer

Sarutahiko Jinjya Shoha Museum, Ise, Japan  
Corning Museum Of Glass, Corning, N.Y, U.S.A, Guest Lecturer  
UrbanGlass, Brooklyn, N.Y, U.S.A, Guest Lecturer and demonstration

2003

Toots Zynsky Seminar, special glass making techniques workshop and  
lecture, Kanaz Forest of Creation, Fukui, Japan

Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL, USA, Guest Lecturer

2002

Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, Guest Lecturer

2000

American Craft Museum, New York, NY, USA, Guest Lecturer

1999

Koganezaki Glass Museum, Kamogun, Japan, Guest Lecturer

Museo del Vidrio, Monterrey, Mexico, Guest Lecturer

1998

Delaware Museum of Art, USA, Guest Lecturer

1997

Muskegon Museum of Art, Muskegon, MI, U.S.A., Guest Lecturer  
Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, U.S.A, Guest Lecturer

1996

Rietveld Academy, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Guest Instructor Glass  
Program, Second Semester

1995

Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, Washington DC, U.S.A, Guest Lecturer

1994

Pilchuck Glass Center, Stanwood, Washington, U.S.A., Guest Lecturer

1992

Glass Art Society 22nd Annual Conference, Mexico City, Mexico, Guest  
Lecturer  
Lecture read by Jean Luc Olivié of the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

1990

Zürich, Switzerland, Guest Lecturer

1988

28th Seminar on Glass, the Corning Museum of Glass, NY, U.S.A, Guest

Lecturer

Yamaha Corporation, Tokyo, Japan, Guest Lecturer

1987

External Examiner, West Surrey College of Art, Farnham, England  
Glass Program, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, Guest  
Lecturer

1986

External Examiner, West Surrey College of Art, Farnham, England

1985

Cincinnati Art Center, Cincinnati, OH  
B.A.G. Conference, West Surrey College of Art, Farnham, UK, Guest Lecturer

1984

G.A.S. Conference, Corning, NY, Guest Lecturer  
UCLA, Artist-in-Residence, Los Angeles, CA

1983

Rietveld Academy, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Guest Lecturer  
"The Fine Art of Private Commissions", Dimock Gallery, George Washington  
University, Washington, DC, Guest Panelist

1982

"Contemporary Glass", Art History Program, New York University, New York,  
NY, Guest Lecturer  
Continuing Education Program Lecture, "Contemporary Glass", Scarsdale, NY  
Glass Program, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, Guest  
Lecturer

1981

"Alternative Education Programs in Glass Arts", Glass Art Society  
Conference, Seattle, WA, Guest Panelist  
Video Performance, Collaboration with Buster Simpson, Pratt Fine Art  
Center, Seattle, WA  
Pilchuck Glass Center, Stanwood, WA, Visiting Artist

1979

Glassblowing Workshop, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI

1975

"Studio Glass Movement in the U.S.", Williams College, Williamstown, MA.  
Guest Lecturer

### **Related Professional Experience**

2013

Residency: Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Vittore Branca International Center  
for the Study of Italian Culture, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice,  
Italy (June 2013)

2010

Residency: Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Vittore Branca International Center for the Study of Italian Culture, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice, Italy (October to November 2010)

Advisory Committee AIDA/Association of Israel's Decorative Arts, New York, NY, USA

2009-2012

Board of Trustees Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI USA

2004-present

Board of Governors Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art, Providence, RI USA

PASA (Providence After School Alliance), Providence, RI, USA

2002-present

Advisory Board, Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Ebeltoft, Denmark

Board of Trustees, Festival Ballet Providence, RI, USA

Advisory Board, Urban Glass, Brooklyn, NY, USA

2001-2

Designs and produces ten torches for the relay at the Paralympics opening ceremonies in Salt Lake City, Utah

1991-92

Designs and executes series of limited edition pieces for E.O.S. Murano, Italy

1984-85

Ghana, 6 months special research project, to record and research the living music of Ghana in collaboration with the Ghanaian Ministry of Culture, the Institute of African Studies, Legon, Ghana and the Klankschap Foundation, Holland

1984

Invited by VENINI, Spa of Venice, Italy to design a special series of "unique" pieces to add to their line.

U.C.L.A., Artist-in-Residence, Visiting Critic, Los Angeles, CA

Pilchuck Glass Center, Instructor, Special Workshop in Fusing, Slumping, Pate-de-verre

1981-83

During this time the artist executed a variety of special projects in glass, including work for advertising firms, production companies, and designs for production.

1981-83

TEAM OF FIVE who reestablished and rebuilt the Second New York

Experimental Glass Workshop, Department Head, Hot Glass Program and

established alliance with Parsons School of Design/The New School Faculty,

Crafts Program

1982

Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deere Isle, Maine, Instructor Hot

Glass Workshop (July)

1980-81

New York Experimental Glass Workshop, Assistant Director

1980

Pilchuck Glass Center, assisted Dan Dailey, Hot Glass Workshop

1971-73

Assisted Dale Chihuly in the founding and establishment of the Pilchuck Glass Center, Stanwood, Washington, U.S.A.

### **Positions**

1983-present

Toots Zynsky (studio), Inc., President and Artist (creator of unique works of art)

1981-1982

Parsons School of Design/The New School, New York, NY, USA Part-time faculty

1980-1983

New York Experimental Glass Workshop (Now UrbanGlass, Brooklyn, NY)  
Assistant Director and Head of Educational Program and Hot Glass Facility