

Info for Steve Davis, Artist
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Artist Statement

These works are inspired by life in America. Through metaphor and titles, this work aims to make commentary on various aspects of the state of affairs in this country over the last decade. In *Two Households...*, I use imagery from the early days of the Cold War: Russian planes, and American planes, both alike in dignity, both now decaying in a wasteland of memory and nostalgic history. In *From Ancient Grudge Break to New Mutiny*, I use similar imagery of abandoned aircraft from the Korean War. These relics from that time have been marked with tags of new rivals, who for fight blindly in the name of their predecessors' fight. With *"In the Pursuit of Happiness"*, I use the image of person who takes on the notion of what happiness should be and dares anyone to tell her differently.

Text for both *Two Households, Both Alike in Dignity*, and *From Ancient Grudge Break to New Mutiny*

"Two households, both alike in dignity,
In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,
From ancient grudge break to new mutiny,
Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean." -Romeo and Juliet. William Shakespeare

Text for *The Pursuit of Happiness*

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Declaration of Independence. -Thomas Jefferson

Biography

Steve Davis grew up in Charleston, South Carolina. He got his BA in Studio Art at the College of Charleston in 2001. After graduating, he moved to Honolulu, Hawaii, where he worked as an assistant in the Glass program at the University of Hawaii. It was during his time in Hawaii, that he really started to delve into social commentary. (Mostly from observing tourists in Waikiki). Personal events would soon find him in Ohio, in the winter, working as an outdoor welder. After a few years of frozen, dry, cracked hands, he decided to apply to grad school in a more agreeable climate. He was accepted to and attended San Jose State University where he currently teaches and manages the metal arts facility there. In addition to his work at San Jose State University, Steve teaches sculpture at Evergreen Valley College in the South Bay and maintains an active studio practice.