



Donna K. W. Branch

PRESS RELEASE

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ALABAMA PEOPLE AND PLACES: CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF ALABAMA ARTS, GLASS ARTIST DONNA BRANCH FEATURED IN SOUTHERN LIVING MAGAZINE, OCTOBER 2007

The Alabama Bureau of Tourism & Travel proclaimed 2007 as the Year of Alabama Arts. The campaign was designed to be a year-long celebration of arts and artists in Alabama which would encourage both visitors to Alabama and Alabamians to explore every form of art that Alabama has to offer. "Alabama has a diverse array of artists ranging from music (Nat King Cole and Emmy Lou Harris) to pottery (Jerry Brown) to spoken word (Kathryn Tucker Windham) to painters (Nail)—and everything in between," said Lee Sentell, Director of the Alabama Bureau of Tourism & Travel. "We're excited to show the rest of the country what we have to offer". From the Alabama Council on the Arts to *Southern Living* magazine, soon after 2007 was declared the Year of Alabama Arts, many organized celebrations followed.

Donna Branch, a McCalla, Alabama artist who works in glass, is being featured in the October 2007 issue of *Southern Living* magazine as the magazine celebrates 2007 as the Year of Alabama Arts. *Southern Living* is a national publication which focuses on crafts, home decorating, cooking and travels for residents of

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the southern region of the United States with sister publications *Coastal Living*, *Southern Accents*, *Cottage Living*, *Cooking Light*, *Sunset* and *My Recipes*.

Currently, Branch works with glass which is cast, carved with battuto, sandblasted and acid-etched. Donna Branch's glass work has been exhibited in group exhibitions in galleries and museums throughout the United States, including "*Spotlight, American Craft Council Southeast Region Juried Exhibition*" , "*The Red Clay Survey*", Huntsville Museum of Art, Huntsville, Alabama, and Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery, Alabama. In addition, her work is in many private collections. Currently her work is represented by Gallerie Alegria, Birmingham, Alabama; Visions Fine Art Gallery and Celebrations Fine Art Gallery with locations in Sedona, Arizona, San Diego, California and Moscow, Russia.

As the recipient of numerous awards and honors, she received the honor of several Juror Awards: from noted art critic Susan Knowles, who writes for *Art Papers*, *Number*, and *Sculpture*; from Faith Ringgold in "*Appalachian Corridors*", Juried Exhibition, Avampato Museum in Charleston, West Virginia; from Dr. Emily Hanna, Curator of Arts of Africa and the Americas, Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama; and from Paul Richelson, Assistant Director and Chief Curator, Mobile Museum of Art, Mobile, Alabama.

For more information, her website can be visited at www.donnabbranch.com