# Emily Bennett



## Artist Statement

In graduate school I often crafted lengthy and verbose essays in an attempt to convey all the thoughts and feelings and processes that were present in my work. I would go on about how the juxtaposition of the hard steel or wood in contrast with the softness of fiber was a metaphor for how we try to protect ourselves while remaining soft on the outside. How we all have an inner toughness that in some may be more visible than in others. As I have grown as an artist I have realized that it is okay to simply want to make beautiful objects exist. The world we live in is so full of darkness, and I desire to bring beauty into it in a way that is therapeutic for myself amidst the actual creation, and available for others to easily understand and obtain. I hope you will enjoy my work just as it is, attribute your own meaning if you desire, and remember that you can also add beauty into dark spaces.

## Bio

Hello! I am Emily Bennett, an artist from Terre Haute Indiana. I am married to my husband Paul and have a 4 year old son named Harrison (Harry for short).

I received my Bachelor of Fine Art degree in Studio Art from Indiana State University in 2014. Shortly after I received my Master of Fine Art degree in Sculpture from the Herron School of Art and Design in 2017 and have worked as a professor of art at Herron, ISU, and Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College. I am currently the Director of Education at the Swope Art Museum. My work has been featured in over 45 galleries across 12 cities and 5 states, and in Fiber Art Now magazine!

I am passionate about creating sculpture specifically in steel and fiber, but my body of work is comprised of a variety of mediums and processes. On my website you will find work ranging from classic woodworking, to found material assemblages and handmade paper, to interactive installations, murals and more. In this exhibit you will find my most recent fiber art, most of which is smaller in scale so as to be more accessible for anyone to have displayed in their home. I believe art should be fun, easy to access and own, and shared with everyone!