

ANDREW MEERS

Instagram: [@mr.meers](https://www.instagram.com/mr.meers)



Andrew Meers
Stone River, 2018
Steel, cubic zirconia, brass
Photo courtesy of the Metal Museum.

ARTIST STATEMENT

Growing up, I struggled to socialize and verbally communicate. This led me to seek expression through creative means. Through making gifts and fashioning objects or structures from the detritus around me, I learned at a young age how to share my creativity to engage others, earn affection, and foster friendships. These early experiences have formed the creative direction of my life and career. As a knifemaker and metalsmith, I work at the convergence of multiple crafts. Existing in between these worlds has led me to develop processes that meld forging with more subdued metals techniques. Using Damascus steel, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, and inlay techniques I create a wide range of cutlery and iron vessels. Animals depicted at play, resting, or eating adorn visible and hidden areas of my pieces. I draw inspiration from memories of my grandfather and his reading of Rudyard Kipling, T.S. Eliot, and the works of many others. His taste in literature has become my surrogate heritage, and these memories impact how I use story and animal narratives as the focus of the engraving and enshrinement on my work. I am able to be the most expressive when making folding knives. By using design elements such as patterned steel blades, handmade hardware, forged elements, and surface texture with imagery, my work steps away from the restraints of conventional knifemaking. I am attracted to the challenge of balancing the forging process with machining delicate and precise mechanisms. Through one functional object I am able to utilize multiple skills and combine my interests in blacksmithing, metalsmithing, engineering, and chemistry. The result is work that is personal, useful, and treasured.

METAL
MUSEUM