

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RYE ART STUDY GROUP PRESENTS: BLAIR LABELLA

Join the Rye Art Study group on Monday, January 28th from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in welcoming our January featured artist, Blair LaBella. Relying on the coastline for handpicked beach stones, Blair designs and fabricates her pieces relying on their color, texture, pattern and composition, while also incorporating silver and some gold. The result is stunning one-of-a-kind beach stone jewelry ranging from earrings, necklaces and pendants to rings and bracelets. Impeccably made, her work also possesses a simple and timeless elegance.

Blair's beautiful beach stone jewelry was born from growing up on the coast of Massachusetts and Maine. With years of collecting beach stones, beach glass and pottery shards from various beaches throughout New England, her jewelry has evolved naturally. Striving to create pieces that are not only well made and comfortable to wear, Blair hopes her work will resonate with the individual owners. So many people have a relationship with the coastline and Blair's pieces allow the owner to bring that connection home. All of her pieces are signed and made by her hands alone, start to finish.

After attending the University of Vermont, Blair transferred to Rhode Island School of Design where she earned a BFA in Ceramics. As so many artists and craftspeople do, she shifted focus to a different medium after a handful of years and hasn't looked back. Blair studied metalsmithing at the DeCordova Museum School as well as workshop intensives at a number of other educational institutions to gain a vocabulary in Metalsmithing and Fabrication, as well as being self-taught. Blair's work has evolved from a line incorporating ceramic pieces, precious stones and keum-boo to the present where she predominantly works with the natural beachstones she collects. Due to the nature of the stones and her constantly finding new beaches, there's always something new to see. A juried member of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen and a Juror in the Metals category with the League, Blair's work can be found in galleries and shows throughout the country.

The Rye Art Study Group meets the on the fourth Monday in January at the Rye Congregational Church at 580 Washington Rd. Rye, NH 03870. Visit www.ryeartstudy.com or e-mail: ryeartstudy@gmail.com for more information.

See examples below:







