



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Worcester Artist Creates Original Lightpainting for Ball State University

(Worcester, Mass.) Stephen Knapp, a Worcester resident and one of the country's premier contemporary glass artists, is completing a three-dimensional, two-story lightpainting, commissioned by Ball State University at Woodmeister Master Builders new manufacturing plant and headquarters in Holden, Mass. The project, which is the final stages of construction, will be installed next month in the lobby of Ball State's new \$21 million Music Instruction Building on their Muncie, Indiana campus.

Knapp was selected following a three-month screening process, which included the assessment of four invited proposals. Chosen for his unique style of blending glass, light, and stainless steel, Knapp is tailoring his light sculpture to three panels, totaling 23.5' x 40', which provide a highly visible, north-facing "canvas" for the spectacular chromatic installation.

"The new music building is referred to as the "crowned jewel" of campus, and it will be afford an exceptional venue for Stephen Knapp's creativity," said Robert A. Kvam, Dean of Ball State University's College of Fine Arts.

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Knapp's lightpaintings are made with patented techniques honed over the past ten years. Multiple pieces of safety glass are coated with up to twenty-four microscopically thin layers of lightfast metallic coating. A light source (often just one halogen lamp) is reflected by the pieces of shaped glass to form unique three-dimensional patterns of colored light on a white wall or panel. The colors and patterns are determined by the order of metallic layers and the angle of the glass to the light source. Highly polished stainless steel brackets hold the pieces of glass in place. Each lightpainting takes up to a year to design and from three to six months to build.

Woodmeister Master Builders has allowed Knapp to create his lightpainting in unused manufacturing space in its newly acquired building in Holden's Industrial Park. The project will be completed by August 2. Woodmeister Master Builders is a 26-year old Worcester company known nationwide for its custom millwork, cabinetry, and luxury residential construction.

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