

An interview with CoMA member Fletch Bruno - January 2021



Tell us about yourself

My name is Fletch Bruno and I do business as Argunus. I'm a hobbyist and I have been making jewelry and metalsmithing for about two years. I haven't had any formal training besides watching videos online and trial and error. However, I have been an artist my entire life and mostly work in pencil, pen and ink, and colored pencils.

How did you find your way to metalsmithing?

I started doing lapidary work about 10 years ago and make all my cabochons from rough. I progressed to jewelry making after I was given a starter kit for Christmas a couple years back. I first started out by making pendants, which are still my main creations. But lately, I have started making one off items like rings, fishing lures, metal guitar picks, silver flowers, etc. My primary material is Argentium, but I work with anything from copper to titanium. I also do sandcarving and more recently have taken on engraving and faceting, too.

Tell us a bit about your practice

For my day job I work as an Engineer and smithing is really just for the pleasure of designing and creating. I have a makeshift studio in my basement where I do all my work, and I try to get down there a couple times a week. I am a member of the Argentium Silver Guild, so I stamp my Argentium work with their winged unicorn stamp. I also stamp my hallmark, which is a lighthouse with crossed swords, into all of my pieces.



Argentium Coffee Bean, 2020

What do you love about doing this kind of work?

Most of my commissions are pendants, from people I know, and usually start with them having an idea and asking if I can make it. I like the challenge of taking someone's idea or concept and creating a one-of-a-kind piece of jewelry.

Why are you a member of CoMA?

I became a member of CoMA to meet other people, broaden my knowledge, and become part of a community. You can see my work and connect with me at www.facebook.com/ArgunusEngineering.



Olive Jasper, Argentium, 2018

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