



“Water Worlds”
by Mary Murray

Laguna Beach artist Mary Murray returns to the Studio Arts Gallery in August with another of her unique sets of table ware. "Water Worlds" includes a table celebrating the lotus ponds at Mission San Juan Capistrano, and a window treatment featuring Laguna's kelp forests.

"Water themes live naturally in the medium of glass with its deep pure color. I approach the work in a painterly style, using the values, colors and transparency of the glass and cutting complex curves to create fluid motion. I see the entire table as my canvas. The challenge is to create each individual plate as an interesting piece in its own right, while being part of the larger single canvas. I avoid overlaying pieces of glass to create the design, instead cutting meticulous small pieces to allow the light to penetrate each pure color. The window panels provided a new challenge: making a fused glass piece that is viewable from both sides, and creating a single large piece from twelve one-foot square parts. In both cases the combined pieces create a mood in the room that is rare in its light and color."

Mary Murray's previous table themes have included "Koi Pond", "Back Bay", "Tropical Flora", "Wildflowers", "Seascape", and "Plein Air".