

# WHO WE ARE



We are environmentally conscious, savvy problem solvers, inventors, artists and metal enthusiasts who have inquisitive minds and a love for bringing ideas to materialization.

Claudette Jocelyn Stern and John Daniel Walters are an unexpected duo in the world of metal design and fabrication. They turned their assets, eccentricities, and differing experiences, from oddity into commodity with the creation of METAL. He was living in Nebraska, she residing in Michigan, when they met at a New Mexico iron pour in 2006. Before you could say, "elemental metallurgy", they had created a business plan and a venture called METAL.

## **CLAUDETTE JOCELYN STERN {OWNER & OPERATOR, DESIGNER & INNOVATOR}**

Claudette's father evolved a tool and die shop into a precision ball and bearing business so she grew up, and even worked in, the world of metal as early as thirteen. Her more mature work with metal began in 1999 when she began attending the Mesalands Iron Pour in Tucumcari, NM. In developing METAL she sought to bring together metal workers, artisans, and engineering enthusiasts as well as those who love the found and the vintage and to also create, beyond a sound business and creative entity, a place of cultural, scientific and environmental exchange. Akin to the Black Mountain School founded in the 1930s, Claudette envisioned a center of exchange, educational novelty, and the desire to work and collaborate with people of enthusiasm, skill, and inventiveness.

## **JOHN DANIEL WALTERS, M.F.A. {OWNER & OPERATOR, DESIGNER & FABRICATOR}**

John received his Master of Fine Arts from the University of Michigan in 2010 with an emphasis in digital fabrication and traditional bronze casting. Through fellowship John has conducted material and process research worldwide in Cuba, Chile, Rapa Nui and Thailand. His sculpture and print work have been exhibited in Michigan, Nebraska, Oregon, Nevada, Indiana, Ecuador and India. His research and exhibition experience have contributed significantly to his methodology of articulating ideas into form. Under the umbrella of project management, John combines innovative and classic design principles to provide customers with objects of high detail and unique craft that withstand the test of time.