

# Peter Rosenthal Who-B-U Studios Artist Statement



“The Offering”

Peter Rosenthal began making site-specific organic sculptures in 2008. His first creation was an installation of an atmospheric wall divider in a loft office in Chelsea. The resulting interlacing web proved to be a counterpoint to his career as a film, television and interactive media producer.

The current body of Peter’s site-specific installations is inspired by the fantastical shaped vines and natural materials he reclaims and weaves into artistic sculptural forms. His initial installation inspired an art and design solution for a 200 foot concrete restraining wall that starts at the edge of Fresh Pond on Shelter Island. Transformed and lit from inside for nighttime parties in the lakeside garden, the wall sculpture from harvested Shelter Island vines came alive in the summer with flowers, featured an outdoor shower and created a gateway to the magical home.

For another collector, a 1,000 square foot house of vines rested on the remnants of a fieldstone stable just outside of New Hope, Pennsylvania. Adjacent to the pool, It has been used as an outdoor space by the family, including a daughter’s wedding. Showing up in surprising places, Peter created an organic sculpture environment for the upstairs club/clothing boutique at the now defunct Collective Hardware art collective in the Bowery district of New York City, and a floating vine chandelier for a Bushwick Bar in Brooklyn.

Uncommon Ground II was Peter’s first public exhibition. He created an organic, site-specific “Hedge Your Bet” vine sculpture that jettisoned from the ground to pierce the hedges of Bridge Gardens in Bridgehampton, New York. He was invited to return for Uncommon Ground IV with “The Offering” – a 9 foot sculpture of tree tumors balanced to the sky and held in place with found farm tools and equipment.

As his site-specific sculptures continued to evolve, Peter had started to create sculpture from harvested tree tumors and found farm objects. In 2019, he began showing in galleries and was accepted into juried sculpture shows. Since relocating his Who-B-U studios to his home in Bucks County and discovering the robust community of artisans and makers in the area, he Co-Founded Makers Alley in 2019. Maker’s Alley is today a craft and artisan collective dedicated to supporting the creative community in the Delaware River Valley.