

Ian Gallo
Metal Art Specialist

Contact Information:

Location: Lawrenceville, GA

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Art: [Instagram.com/iangalloart](https://www.instagram.com/iangalloart)

Events: [Instagram.com/gallowelding](https://www.instagram.com/gallowelding)

Professional Summary: As an innovative sculptor with over a decade of experience in metalworking, woodworking, and mixed media, I specialize in creating large-scale installations that explore themes of resilience and untamed landscapes. Drawing from my background in environmentalism and human rights activism, I use my privilege and platform to support and amplify the voices of marginalized communities.

My work, including notable projects like "Oya" at SoMo Walls and "Dragonfleidoscope" at the Okeechobee Music & Arts Festival, has been exhibited at major art festivals and is included in both public and private collections. Dedicated to pushing the boundaries of industrial techniques, I craft unique, thought-provoking pieces that engage and inspire viewers.

Currently, I'm expanding my flourishing business, Gallo Welding, creating art and collaborating with floral designers nationwide. Through this work, I explore the delicate dance between the vibrant wedding industry and its ephemeral portrayal of lavish wealth and elitism, reminding us that true love should be the heart of every celebration. This artistic journey reflects on the nuances of societal contrast, highlighting beauty and extravagance against a backdrop of economic and environmental challenges in a world striving for sustainability.

Education:

- **Beltline Business Ventures**, Atlanta, GA (2024)
 - Sculpture Artist Program
 - Taught by TILA Studios with topics on business model development, market feasibility, and business resiliency.
- **Lively Technical College**, Tallahassee, FL (2016-2019)
 - Advanced Welding Student
 - AWS certified in various welding techniques, including SMAW, GMAW, FCAW, and GTAW. Specializing in carbon steel, stainless steel, and aluminum.

Professional Experience:

- **Owner/Operator**, Gallo Welding, Atlanta, GA (2020-Present)
 - Provided custom fabricated metal structures for weddings and events.
 - Collaborated with dozens of floral designers, event planners, and venue owners.

- **Artist**, Self-Employed, Atlanta, GA (2009-Present)
 - Created large interactive installations and public sculptures.
 - Collaborated with various artists on diverse projects.
- **Lead Welder**, Various Construction Companies, Tallahassee & Atlanta (2016-Present)
 - Worked in metal fabrication, steel erection, pipelining, restoration, & HVAC.
 - Achieved many AWS certifications & OSHA 30 Safety Training.

Exhibitions:

- **Solo Exhibitions:**
 - "Form & Flow", Hip Hop Showcase with Cap 6, Tallahassee, FL (2018)
 - "Sparks & Steel: Ian Gallo Live", GVO: Baechella, Tallahassee, FL (2018)
- **Group Exhibitions:**
 - "Steel Hedgehog", Little 5 Points Soapbox Gallery, Atlanta, GA (2024)
 - "Angel Trumpets", Suwannee Hulaween, Live Oak, FL (2018 & 2019)
 - "Nocturnus", Suwannee Hulaween, Live Oak, FL (2019)
 - "Dragonfleidoscope", Okeechobee Festival, Okeechobee, FL (2018)
 - "Inner Reflections", Culture Club, Tallahassee, FL (2018)

Publications and Media:

- Interview with Carson Jordan, 2018 (Video)
 - Discussed creative upbringing and the influence of Ian's great grandfather as a welder. Featured insights into Ian's first large installation, "Dragonfleidoscope," showcased at the Okeechobee Festival. Filmed at Lively Technical School, highlighting the welding program and its impact on Ian's artistic development.
- Interview with SoMo Walls, 2024 (Video)
 - Explored the inspiration behind Ian's sculpture "Oya," which symbolizes strong women and is rooted in Yoruba mythology as the goddess of storms, transformation, and leadership. The interview also delved into Ian's artistic background and featured discussions on contemporary artists who inspire him and those he admires today.

Lectures and Workshops:

- Facilitator, Welding Workshops for Artists and Activists, Atlanta, GA (2022-Present)
 - Conducted workshops aimed at teaching welding techniques to artists and human rights activists. Focused on fostering a versatile and creative community by equipping participants with the skills to create innovative and impactful works.

Professional Affiliations:

- Welder and Volunteer, TILA Studios, Atlanta, GA (2024-Present)
 - Contributed as a contractor and volunteer, supporting various projects and initiatives within the studio.

- Artist and Activist, ATL Radical Art & Food 4 Life, Atlanta, GA (2023-Present)
 - Engaged in artistic and activist activities with ATL Radical Art & Food 4 Life, promoting social, environmental, and political change through creative expression.

References:

- Tiffany LaTrice, Founder, Executive Director, TILA Studios
 - Tel: 917-548-3705, Email: Tiffany@tilastudios.com
- Aisha White, Director, Creative Operations, TILA Studios
 - Tel: 917-548-3705, Email: Aisha@tilastudios.com
- Tony Loadholt, Owner, Sculpture Artist, 11th Hour Scene Shop & Studio
 - Tel: 770-815-9441
- Oshun Layne, Executive Director, Dashboard
 - Tel: 646-755-5229, Email: Oshun@dashboard.us
- Bugra Demirel, Developer, SoMo Walls
 - Tel: 850-896-9114, Email: Bugra@demirelint.com
- Jaworski Vance, Project Manager, SoMo Walls
 - Tel: 850-408-2825