Jim Masterson received his B.F.A. in Metallurgy from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville in 1990. He went on to receive his M.F.A. in Metallurgy from Miami University (Ohio) in 1994.

Jim currently lives in Memphis and has been working for the National Ornamental Metal Museum (the ‘Metal Museum’) for 22 years. Jim began his employment there in the blacksmith shop, became shop foreman and then became lead designer after about eight years. Jim currently serves as the lead designer and head of the Metal Studio at the Metal Museum.

Jim has artwork in both private and public collections. He loves the work that he does at the Museum. This role allows him to design and create for clients doing everything from private commissions to public art projects. His large-scale metalworks are currently installed in venues including the Memphis Botanic Garden and Cannon Center for the Performing Arts. Jim also creates personal work in the metal studio.

Jim says of his career, “It’s always something new and challenging. I have also had the privilege of working with some great coworkers and apprentices over all these years.”