Born in Ipswich, Massachusetts in 1957, abstract painter Bill Thompson studied painting and sculpture at Carnegie Mellon University after receiving undergraduate training at Emmanuel College.

Rooted in the work of Russian Constructivism, Thompson's early work engaged with pure painting and the formalist concepts exemplified by Piet Mondrian. His later works involve three-dimensional wall installations composed of glossy, jewel-colored forms created with urethane on epoxy.

He has had numerous group and solo exhibitions both nationally and internationally; his works are in the collections of the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University, the List Visual Art Center at MIT, the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and many other institutions.

He lives and works in Boston.