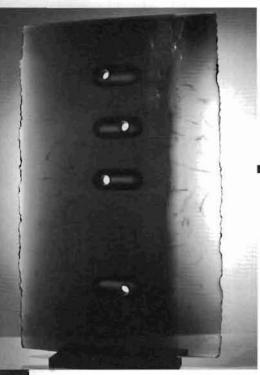
ausglass spring2000

newsletter of the Australian Association of Glass Artists

Richard Whitely wins RFC Award

The year 2000 RFC award was won by Richard Whitely for a piece entitled "Blue - Grey", a kiln cast piece of some 75 cms. in height. Richard wrote of the piece "The physical properties of the material, its ability to bend and distort light and space are a constant fascination. It is these simple elements that are constantly being explored in my work"



'Blue-Grey' by Richard Whitely

Peoples choice award went to Richard Morrell for a piece entitled "Bowl of Truth".

The \$7500 offered as first prize by the Resource Finance Corporation attracted 129 entries, with 39 being selected for exhibition.

For a more detailed report on the show, see Kayo Yokoyama's review elsewhere in this issue.

Election of Board Members

In 1999 Ausglass changed from an affiliation of state based organisations to a non-profit company limited by guarantee with an elected Board of Directors.

In line with our new national constitution Board members are now appointed for a three-year term with new members stepping down each year to ensure the injection of new blood while maintaining Board experience and stability.

At our upcoming 2001 conference three current Board members will resign and three new members elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Nominations for the Election of Board members are now due.

Please give consideration as to who you would like to see appointed onto the Board.

Your submission of a suitable applicant and your vote ensure an active and vibrant long-term future for the body of Ausglass.

Your state representative has been notified to convene a state meeting to collect nomination forms and any items to be put onto the agenda to be discussed at the Annual General meeting.

Nomination forms have been enclosed and are to be received by the Secretary no later than the 10th December 2000 and proxy forms by 25th January 2001.

Vitrin Glass Services no more.

In a surprise move, Vitrin Glass, well known throughout the Australian glass community for provision of furnace construction, batch mixing services and the production of casting crystal, are about to close their doors.

Vaughn Briers, owner of Vitrin, wishes to branch out in new directions, hence the decision to cease operations. Vaughn is aware that many in the glass community have become reliant on Vitrin's services, and does not wish to leave a vacuum of supply for his clients, therefore he will continue to distribute batch materials till a new supplier is established.

We can reveal that this new supplier will be a subsidiary of Gaffer glass, and will be run by John Croucher's son, Luke Jacomb, from a location in Melbourne. This new operation will have its own weighing and mixing equipment, which should ensure that quality control remains of the high standard we have come to expect from Gaffer products. Luke expects to commence operations in January 2000.

The production of Vitrin casting crystal will pass to James Thompson, who has been involved with the production of Vitrin crystal already, so there should be a smooth transition here as well. (James Thompson can be reached on 040 8925 410).

Vitrin glass has played a large part in the development of Australian studio glass, and I am sure there are many of us who would wish Vaughn the very best with his new ventures.



quarterly newsletter of the Australian Association of Glass Artists

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CODY DECILIDEMENTS

Copy is to be submitted in plain text or other PC compatible format, or emailed to: ausglass@vicnet.net.au Postal address is: Newsletter editor, Ausglass PO Box 4018 McKinnon Vic 3204

DEADLINE FOR MEYT ISSUE

November 15th, 2000

ADVEDTISING PATES

1/8 page \$30 (4 issues \$100) 1/4 page \$60 (4 issues \$200) 1/3 page \$80 (4 issues \$260) 1/2 page \$100 (4 issues \$320) Full page \$200 (4 issues \$640)

Line ads. are available free to financial members to advertise equipment, workshops etc. Max. 30 words.

Presidents Report

Hello again. I hope you are all as upcomina bv the excited conference in Melbourne as I am. Our conference Director Pam Stadus and her team, have got the bit well and truly between their teeth, and that loveable monster (The Ausglass Conference) is on the move! You will have received your conference brochure and other details by now, and will appreciate the depth of the planned event. What a great line up of quests and topics.

As always it is the participation and contributions from the members that make the event good, so please get involved.

The board is pleased to announce a new presence on the web, www.ausglass.org.au It's a small package at the moment, but it will be developed over the next few months by a group coordinated by Board member Matthew Larwood. If you have suggestions or ideas, contact us.

Over the last two days in July, the full Board of Ausglass met in Adelaide. At these meetings a host of issues are discussed in conducting the affairs of Ausglass, and setting directions for the future. A full transcript of the minutes are sent to all State Reps, so should you wish to glimpse all the secret business you may!

Of note from that meeting:

- The committee organizing honouring life membership has been established, and they will meet shortly to review the nominations and make a recommendation. An announcement will be made at the Conference. Thank you for your contributions to this initiative.
- Some modifications to member entitlement and the membership forms have been made to simplify the system. Of course GST is a factor we all have to deal with, but you will note that there is no increase in actual fees. Membership numbers have been increasing steadily and

this is vital for the strength of Ausglass. Please keep soliciting.

The awards (and scholarships) will again be available at this years" Ausglass exhibitions at the conference. These are made available through the Vicki Torr Memorial Fund and The Thomas Foundation, and provide a genuine motivation for presenting the best in current Australian glass at this time.

Have a look at the website. Register for the Conference Enjoy the warmer weather

David Turner

EDITORIAL

Firstly, apologies for this issue being a bit late, I have been distracted by the dictates of my studio.

There has been the suggestion from some board members that the newsletter should no longer be printed and posted, but instead be posted on our website. The main aim of this proposal appears to be to save the costs of printing and postage.

This is an issue of major relevance to all members, and it would do to start thinking about this now.

There will be articles in the next newsletter which argue for and against the proposal. Have a good read of these so we can all make an informed decision at the Annual general meeting.

In the meantime, we are always looking for items of interest to our members. Exhibition reviews, workshops reviews, overseas expedition reports (Keith Rowes report from Africa was a ripper) what-have-you?

Remember, it is your newsletter!

Richard Morrell

Art of Glass Special Book Offer

Introduce a new member to Ausglass and receive the Geoffrey Edwards Art of Glass book for yourself as well as your friend!

Ausglass has a limited number of the Art of Glass books to offer when existing members enroll new members to Ausglass.

If you have not yet had the pleasure of owning a Geoffrey Edwards Art of Glass book and you know someone who is not as yet a member of Ausglass than this is the ideal time to rectify the situation. Inductees to the membership receive the great benefits of being an Ausglass member and both parties receive a copy of the book.

Being a member allows you to take advantage of the Ausglass 2001 Uncharted Waters, contemporary glass beyond current practice conference and affiliated workshops, the Vicki Torr Memorial prize, the Thomas Foundation Pilchuck scholarships and the Ausglass magazine.

Contact Maggie Stuart Ausglass membership secretary to receive an application form to take advantage of this offer, as books are limited.

Three Graces' by Peter

RFC 2000 Review

Congratulations to Richard Whiteley (1st Prize) & Richard Morrell (People's Choice). RFC2000 held opening nights on August 23rd & 24th at the Volvo Gallery in Sydney. Fortunately, I had a chance to meet many artists and see the pieces selected for exhibition.

As Andy Plummer (Director of RFC) said, every year, RFC exhibition gets better than the previous year.

Whiteley and Morrell's pieces represented RFC2000 perfectly. Whiteley's winning piece was stunning especially the edge dividing air and the colours. Morrell's "Bowl of Truth" has wonderful dialogues inside. Both works blew me away.

I would like to tell you about more pieces at exhibition. Richard Neumann's "Rosaflora" & "Grandiflora" caught my eyes and didn't let me go. The layers of colour affect each other and create new colours on the surface. Richard talked extensively to me about his techniques and I was delighted by his information and his passion.

Many people's eyes were drawn towards Niki Harley's "Perpetuity #3". People were staring at her piece with smiles on their faces. I saw many glorious scenes inside of her piece, and I must say that she wore the best dress at the opening! I just wonder where she got it!

Peter Cumming's detailed cameo piece was amazing. It made me remember that we can do so many things on glass. He was so happy to be there to talk to other artists, just as I was. Kevin Gordon's "Occurring Dreams" was a masterpiece. It shows awesome skill. Images after images. He told me how he made it and invited me to his Studio. I hope that he is not regretting it now.

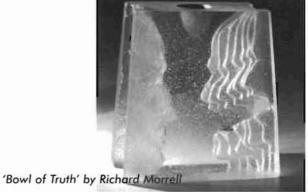
Sam Ireland's "What if they were lions" & "I am cow, I love to drink" made many people smile and laugh. Well made and loaded with meanings. Tall skinny Sam was very happy at party. (RFC Poster is one of his works.)

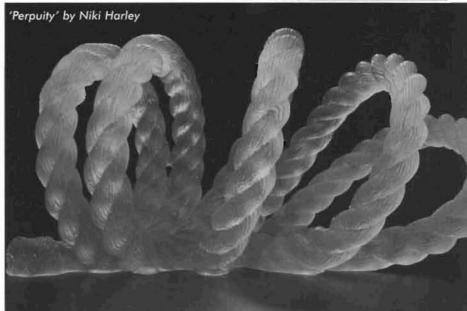
C. Daw's "Empty Dreams" & "Broken Dreams" are very fragile but yet elegant. During the set up nobody would touch them, but thanks to you, Maureen Cahill, they were exhibited. Carrie Webster's ""Lucious Delicious" & "Delightful Caress" succeeded in looking yummy. I wasn't allowed to touch the pieces but I couldn't help it, and the surface was luscious.

I would love to talk about more but, there is no more space to write, which is a shame because every single piece in the exhibition was exceptional and contributed to the best RFC show to date. Thanks again to RFC and Glass Artists' Gallery for our opportunity to have such a great show. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to attend the RFC exhibition and am honoured to do this review.

Kayo Yoroyama Sydney College of Art









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Firing Schedules for Glass

Graham Stone appears relaxed and contented. For a man known for his intensity in his art and love of glass, this is unusual. Perhaps it is because he is enjoying teaching his skills to the students at RMIT University; although I suspect he is relaxing after finally publishing his much awaited book, Firing Schedules for Glass: The Kiln Companion.

Seduced by the medium of glass, Graham has kept meticulous records of the processes involved in the making of his own wellknown artwork. This information is now available to all glass artists, for use in their own individual situations. Seven years in the writing, drawing on twenty-five years of experience in alass, this Bible of technical information is the most comprehensive slumpers and casters handbook on the market. Every chapter of this book could be titled, "Let's Save You the Effort." This three-part book is intended to "eliminate some of the guess work associated with kilnfiring glass".

Different types of kilns are discussed, and advice is given on which type is best suited to various techniques. The section controllers talks about what types are available, and what features to look for. There are one hundred pages of firing schedules, with each schedule presented degrees Celsius and in Fahrenheit; thicknesslikewise. based schedules are listed with both metric and imperial Time-based measurements. schedules show the safest firing

cycles for a given situation, in the shortest timeframe possible. These schedules are for float glass; however, each one comes with a chart of temperature settings for other types of glass, such as Bullseye, G.N.A. and Spectrum (amongst others). Pate de Verre and casting schedules are also covered, as are programs for annealing blown and lampworked alass.

The chapter on firing variables explains schedule adjustments appropriate for differing conditions - glass thickness and form; types of glass; the type of kiln being used, and so on. A list of annealing temperatures for twenty-eight different types of glass is also given.

The book also features a back-up section, full of additional information on the technical aspects of glass in layman's terms. There is even a two-part history of world events and historical developments, in connection to developments in glass, putting the history of the medium into a general perspective.

At \$95.00 Firing Schedules for Glass: The Kiln Companion is an absolute must. It will prevent a lot of people from walking away from glass, because the invaluable information it contains will help increase the chance of successful firings.

To purchase a copy, contact Graham Stone at: stoneg@melbpc.org.au

Tali Dalton

AUSGLASS CONFERENCE

The Australian Association of Glass Artists, ausglass, will celebrate their 12th biennial conference from 24 -27 January 2001, in Melbourne, Australia. The theme of the conference is:

UNCHARTED WATERS:

"contemporary glass beyond current practice"

The following events combine to promise 2 weeks of Glass related energy and excitement:

WORKSHOPS:

15 - 23 January 2001:

FRINGE EVENTS:

22 - 23 January 2001

CONFERENCE:

24 - 27 January 2001 Featuring Lectures, Chat sessions, Artists Profiles, Glass Walks and Tours, Demonstrations, Parties and more!

TRADE-SHOW:

24 - 26 January 2001 View the latest in Australian and Overseas glass equipment, technical supplies and literature.

AUCTION:

27 January 2001: and

EXHIBITIONS:

throughout January 2001

WORKSHOPS:

15 - 23 January 2001

"LOOKING THROUGH THE GLASS" Martin Blank (USA) Technique: Hot Glass Forming. Monash University, Caulfield Campus:

"CONCEPT TO CONSTRUCTION" Ursula Huth, (GER) and Ian Mowbray (AUS) Technique: Kiln casting, painting & fusing: Monash University, Caulfield Campus

"GENERATING PARTS" Jack Wax (USA) Technique: Hot Glass Blowing, Forming and Assembling.

RMIT University, Nth Melbourne

"EXPLODING THE MYTHS", James Minson (AUS) Technique: Flameworking: RMIT University, Nth Melbourne

"KILN FIRED PAINTING & STAINING TECHNIQUES", Gerry Cummins (AUS) Holmesglen Institute of TAFE. Chadstone

FRINGE PROGRAMME:

Monday 22 January:

"GLASS ON THE GREENS" For the Golfing enthusiast.

PUBLIC LECTURE: GERRY CUMMINS (AUS) and WILHELM DERIX (GER)

CUMMINS; Wonder at the 'Processes and Aesthetics of the Creation windows, St Monica's Cathedral, Cairns."

DERIX: 'The Present and Future works by the Derix Glasstudio',

Tuesday 23 January:

the 'GLORY OF GLASS' Walking Tour of heritage glass in the heart of Melbourne;

"HIGH TEA AT THE WINDSOR with GEOFFREY EDWARDS".

"GEORGE'S GLASS SHOPPING SPREE"

Saturday 27th January:

"GLORY OF GLASS" BUS TOUR of Significant heritage and contemporary stained glass in the greater city of Melbourne.

UNCHARTED WATERS: 'contemporary glass beyond current practice'

CONFERENCE:

24 - 27 January 2001:

Monash University: **Caulfield Campus**

24 January

REGISTRATION: Members, Students exhibitions & the New Monash Hot Shop Openings. Chat sessions; Demonstrations by International and Australian Artists. Opening night party

25 January

'New Technologies: New Directions': Dr Sylva Petrova: Brett Littman: Dr Robert Bell: Clare Bond; Kirstie Rea: Scott Chaseling: Roll-ups; Book launch 'Firing Schedules for Glass - the Kiln Companion,' by Graham Stone; Southbank Gallery Openings;

26 January

'Site Specific: Working to a brief'; Wilhelm Derix; Gerry Cummins; Architects and Glass; Toucan Glass; Vetro Systems, Deston Glass: The 'Glass Walk Exhibition'

27 January:

Venue: RMIT University, **Melbourne City Campus: -Personal Interpretations:** Glass as Art', Jack Wax, Martin Blank, Ian Mowbray, Kevin Murray: Dr Sylva Petrova; James Minson, Ursula Huth. AUCTION.

AUSGLASS EXHIBITIONS:

MEMBERS AND STUDENT **EXHIBITIONS** at Monash University.

"PRODUCTION EXHIBITION" and "GLASS WALK EXHIBITION" in and through the heart of Melbourne.

SATELLITE EXHIBITIONS:

(as of August, 2000): AXIA MODERN ART at Australian Art Resources and Armadale: CRAFT VICTORIA: KIRRA AUSTRALIA GALLERY: GARRY McEWEN GALLERY: Rita Kornhauser of Distelfink at NELLIE CASTAN GALLERY: QDOS Gallery, LORNE. NEW TO THE CONFERENCE PROGRAMME are the CHAT **SESSIONS**

Designed to provide an informal platform for information exchange and interaction, these sessions are free to all enthusiasts and will be held on.....

REGISTRATION DAY: 24 January 2001

Venue: Caulfield campus, Monash University. Same venue as registration, So arrive early.

Time 10.30am - 2.30pm

- -Innovation and Changes in **Technology**
- -Setting up a Hot Glass Studio
- -Artists profiles
- -Glass History re-examined
- -Glass on the Web
- -Glass as a Career
- -A Career after Glass
- -Student forums

Running concurrent with the Chat sessions are Hot and warm glass demonstrations by International and Australian Artists

Venue: Glass studios. Monash University, Caulfield Campus. Same venue as Registration and the Chat Sessions!

Closing night party

For all information and registration inquiries: Key contacts: Pamela Stadus, Tel/fax: +61 3 9528 2160 pamela@hilink.com.au Or ausglass. PO Box 4018 Mckinnon Vic 3204 Email:ausglass@vicnet.net.au

practice conference and affiliated workshops, the Vicki Torr Memorial prize, theThomas Foundation Pilchuck scholarships and the Ausglass magazine.

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Azure Glass Studio opens in Sydney

An Olympic effort in the development of a new glass facility in Brookvale, Sydney has seen the fortunes of Azure Art Glass bound forward.

Owned and managed by Emma Varga, Azure lit it is furnace in May, 5 months after investors and friends backed the venture.

Azure has already attracted the interest of The Department of Employment Workplace Relations and Small Business as a pilot project in the Growing Regional Opportunities for Work program (GROW).

Azure is one of five GROW Craft at Work projects included in the \$200,000 initiative to foster opportunities within the craft industry.

Azure will be host the Ministry's celebration of the Craft At Work project at it's 500sq.m. studio facility in late October.

Resident artists; Jonathan Baskett, Miki Kubo, Jim Randall, Ben Sewell and Emma Varga recently formed the production Co-operative - 'Alchemy' to manage group identity and major projects.

Alchemy won it1s first major contract with the assistance of ACDDC ìn · significant a commission from The National Gallery of Australia for their 'Centenary of Federation¹ project. Alchemy will supply a variety of gift ware, tableware plus an innovative remake of designs from the drawing books of Eirene Mort held in collection. I imagine that we can look forward to continued growth and development of this fresh and dynamic group of artists.

Ian Hobbs

Kleen Enterprise, General Manager - Michael Hsu has a Glass gallery in Taiwan and wants contact with Australian Glass Artists for exposure to the Taiwan market. Organises the Chu International Glass Arts festival of which Canberra School of Art has participated in.

Contact Details; Kleen Enterprise Co., Ltd., Michael Hsu

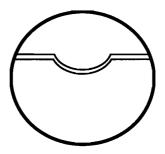
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Letters

Dear Editor

I write to express my concern at Jeffrey Hamilton's critique of the exhibition "Sassy" in your last issue. I am a long-term member of Ausglass and an occasional contributor to Ausglass magazine and other journals. I know how difficult it is to produce a magazine which is predominantly text when your contributors and readers are primarily visual people. I am also aware that it is difficult to criticise a large number of works from widely disparate artists, however this magazine represents peer group assessment of a small and arcane discipline, and thus any criticism - particularly that of emerging practitioners enormously important, and should contain real criticism meaningful comment.

I did not see the exhibition, but I am familiar with the works that were sent from Victoria.

Mr Hamilton's critique was an embarrassment. I cannot help wondering how long he actually spent studying the works. Peer assessment that consists of facile impressions, personal opinions, adjectives and expletives couched in awkward and poorly edited English is not good enough.

Art criticism and English expression are areas of rigorous discipline in their own right and carry a serious responsibility.

EEEEK!

Mary Lockley

(The following is an edited extract from Gerry Kings response to Jeffery Hamiltons review of the Sassy Exhibition.)

Dear Jeffery.

There are several problematic aspects of your review, some beyond the province of the author, but all worthy of urgent remedy.

First. Given that the exhibitors are students or recent graduates it is especially inappropriate to condemn their works with comments such as "[eek!]", "rather dreadful" and "not working at all", etc. Life is hard enough for the emerging artist without such potentially hurtful attacks.

Even expert critics ought respect the sensitivity of those being critiqued. An enthusiastic amateur, no matter how casual the literary style, ought to keep in mind the adage, 'If one can't say something nice...'.

(A critic) should ensure that a rational, intellectually rigorous and well stated argument explains the correctness of your belief that the work is without merit. This is decidedly more taxing upon the author than, "eek".

Secondly. Even though the Ausglass Newsletter is to some extent an internal communication it is significantly a part of the public face of a professional association. Consequently, I believe that some of your grammatical style is inappropriately casual.

For example; "I didn't get", "the bits of green hanging off", "is on to something here", "didn't quite make it", "Too what? Alien, maybe?", "Perhaps it a 60's thing.", "not working at all", etc, though colourful, lend little to the merit of your expression and are potentially offensive to both the reader and the exhibitor.

Finally. I suggest that you acquire an editor to proof read and critique your writing prior to publication. Perhaps it unreasonable to require the editorial intervention from a volunteer publication that is customary commercial in situations, however it is imperative that Ausglass enhance rather than deteriorate its image as a professional association by publishing a newsletter that is carefully considered prior to international distribution.

Gerry King

Dear Glass Lovers,

I just wanted to tell you about changes at Lightwriters Glass Book Store. First we have a new isp. Hopefully this means no more outages. We also added new software to assist in you book search and order processing.

New products include flip-ups from Aura Lens Products. This new eye wear for glass blowers' features the same great Aura lens plus flip-up shades.

There is even a model with a flipup magnifier.

http://www.lightwriters.com is part of my glass studio and not a huge corporate site. Buying books from the site helps artists and students alike.

Jacob

CAN ANYONE ASSIST WITH THIS REQUEST?

I have been trying to get in contact with Stevie Fieldsend. The last point of contact I had was through the JamFactory which directed me to Sydney, from there I have had no luck. I was hoping that Ausglass or one of your members might have an idea.

Kind regards Linda Elliott

Gallery Assistant Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery

elliottl@wagga.nsw.gov.au

STATE reports

NSW Report

This is a very short report. There are always things happening in NSW. Congratulations Giselle Courtney And Rodney Monk on their new baby.

Then there is the RFC award good work and congratulations to Richard Whitely who won the prize, A good start to his new life away from the halls of the SCA. The peoples choice this year was won by Richard Morrell. The new work of all the participants was an outstanding mix of ideas and technical virtuosities, always exciting to see.

There is to be a grand opening at the new studio in Manly so keep your ear to the ground. That's all for the time being.

Keith Rowe

WA REPORT

Hello to all, SAD NEWS.

Unfortunately, Helen Baros has decided to resign from her position as State Rep due to ill health. We all thank helen for her contribution and hope she rests and recovers soon.

GOOD NEWS: In the meantime contact has been made with all the WA Members and nomination & voting has brought forward Ali Devitt-Lansom for the position with a close following by Peter Bowles. Ali is currently completing her Honours at Curtin University and will be working from a home studio exploring different techniques with glass.

Ali will be attending the conference in Melbourne and looks forward to the opportunity of being officially nominated for the position. The Board has requested that I stand in as State Rep until the AGM in January and I must say I would be pleased to do so. There

may be some delegating coming your way WA members!

If anyone would any further information please don't hesitate to contact either myself on (08) 9370 4553 or Ali on (08) 9574 2926, mobile 0419 929 221.

A Wine and Food Festival in Margaret River will take some of our members to Gerry Reilly's Melting Pot for demonstrations and exhibitions and possibly some wine and food. Gerry will be on the 'bus route' for the festival which runs for 10 days. Any interstate visititors considering a trip to WA in November - this is an excursion not to miss!

Congratulations to Kevin Gordon who was selected for the RFC. Well done!!!

Carole-Anne Lunn has set up a new studio and we look forward to seeing good things coming from her!

Peter Bowles, David Hay & Elizabeth Maverick recently exhibited at the Hale Annual Exhibition with great success.

Last but not least, a new gallery is opening in North Perth in October and the call is out for supply of artworks, namely glass. Exhibitionist Gallery of Art is a new venture for me and will certainly keep me busy! Call (08) 9444 8202 for info.

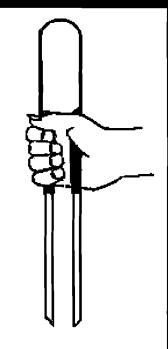
Next meeting at Craftwest 15 November, 6.15pm.

Jenny Verne Taylor

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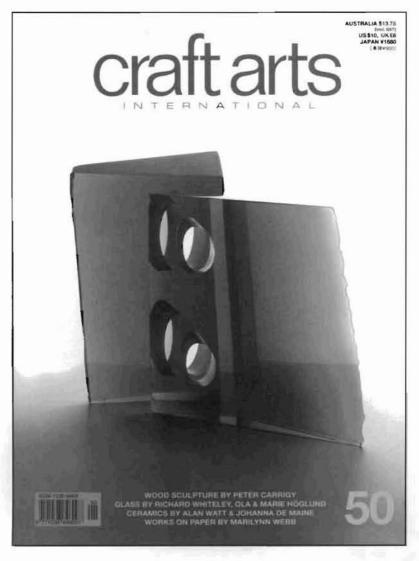
contact Ross Duncan:

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