

Newsletter

DECEMBER 2013

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Thanks to all our returning members and new members for another fantastic year. The success of our conference in Wagga Wagga and movements within the Board of Directors has highlighted our fundamental passion for glass as a material or medium throughout the nation. One universal factor in all this is that we love glass in various ways. "Ars Longa Vita Brevis" (Life is brief but Art endures)

The organisation has gained significant momentum this year with plans being made to upgrade our existing website and enhance membership benefits not only nationally but beyond our shores.

Many Thanks to the Board of directors for sustaining this momentum with the change of Presidency and transition of Directors just like the changing seasons so too is the fruit bowl always in flux.

This edition is being compiled by our executive Administration Officer and your President with contributions from some of your favourite Board members as our previous newsletter Editor has stepped down recently. Thanks for your contribution Suzie and we wish you all the best.

We welcome with open arms Tegan Hamilton as our new Secretary relieving Estelle Dean of her duties as having made a huge contribution to the ongoing mechanisation of the organisation. Thanks heaps Estelle, it been great working with you and I'm sure the members can attest to this also.

Plans are in full swing for the 2015 South Australian Ausglass Conference and further details on who is helping or if you have any suggestions to contribute towards the planning do make contact with the relevant person for the conference, see page 24.

February 2014 is our next Annual General meeting in Adelaide and as each member is entitled to vote come along and make yours count. Every Ausglass member is most welcome to attend and we will notify each of you in due course with further information on where and when. If you have any items which you would like added to the agenda please email them to our newly appointed Secretary Tegan Hamilton via secretary@ausglass.org.au

An important part of what the board do is completing our Annual Report for ASIC (Australian Securities and Investments Commission) who regulate the organisation. The document is currently being compiled and our financials are at the Auditors. Big THANKS to Jeff Hamilton (our Treasurer); Fiona Holmes (our Bookkeeper) both for finalising the accounts; our outgoing Secretary, Estelle Dean for keeping things in order and Jane Hebiton for administering it all. Thanks for your hard-work and dedication to the organisation.

Wishing you all a safe Christmas and a merry New Year. Happy holidays everyone.

Yours truly

Verity Jasmin Burley
President
president@ausglass.org.au



President's Report



As would be expected at this time of year, we continue to operate at a small loss of \$2,484. November income from membership subscriptions

and interest on investments was \$656 while our running expenses for that month were \$3,140. This trend will no doubt continue through January, February and March with membership renewals starting to increase through April and May.

Expenses through December will be higher than usual with the preparation of the Annual Report and a higher than expected postage cost on the Post-Conference Document, as it came in somewhat heavier than 500gms. The cost of printing the document had already been budgeted for.

These costs will be offset by interest earned from the investment account of \$7,000, which I have transferred to our operating account prior to re-investing the fund for a further 12 months @ 3.45%.

The Annual Report for FY13 will be available shortly, once we have had the financial documents passed by the auditors. If you wish to view a detailed Profit & Loss statement for November please email treasurer@ausglass.org.au.

As memberships continue to come in throughout the year the question is occasionally put to me as to why it costs the same to join Ausglass in December as it does in May? The organisation adopted uniform annual fees covering a 12month period from 1st June to 31st May some 15, maybe 20 years back. Many similar organisations, including GAS (USA), the Royal Academy of Glass Painters (UK) and NAVA (Aust) have a similar membership structure with no pro-rata break down for joining late in the year. (Although sometimes the Board may see fit to introduce an encouragement discount from time to time, as was the case earlier this year).

It should be noted however that the benefits of membership kick in as soon as your fees have been processed and your email address registered: you receive the very next newsletter and can access past newsletters if you wish; the online gallery is immediately

available to you to upload your images and CV and the email list members@ausglass.org.au, which goes to all Ausglass members, is also immediately available to you to advertise, promote or seek whatever may be appropriate.

Once you have registered you will promptly receive a Welcome Pack and all these benefits and more will be set out clearly for you. Also you would be very welcome to take up an active role in the running of the organisation: you could become a State Representative or even Editor of this Newsletter. How you engage with the wider glass community is up to you.

Enrol early, enrol often.

All the very best for the holiday season

Jeff Hamilton

Treasurer

treasurer@ausglass.org.au

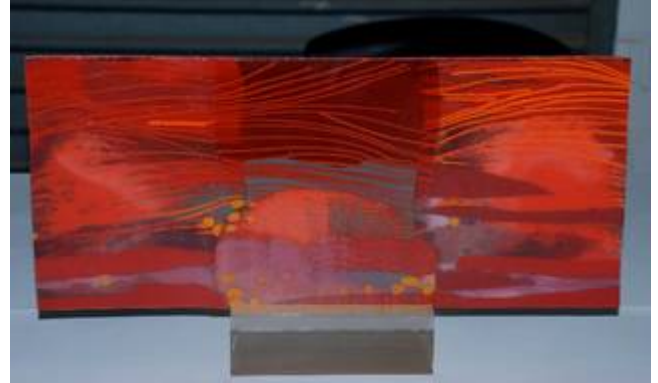
Western Australia

by Anne Sorensen and Greg Ash, warep@ausglass.org.au

The news from WA has gone into a quiet news time but in November we did have the grand uncle of glass in Gerry King conducting a most elucidating workshop on the many techniques that Gerry has developed and extended over the years. He had the group cutting, glueing, sliding, sandblasting, recutting then adding pieces to build up the layers to create artworks of beauty.

Gerry definitely enthused his participants at Art Glass Studio. If any kilnworker has the opportunity they should definitely study under the master of glass manipulation even though he is one hard task master having the group work from 9 to 10 hours for 5 days.

Jeffrey Turner did a small commission of a glass font for the police chapel at the Joondalup Police Academy... well received he heard and a few babies' heads wet there already.



Louise Sass' striking Kimberley inspired piece



Belinda Kay's gorgeous manipulation

*John Turner's
Police academy
font*





The WA Christmas party

Greg Ash has a solo exhibition entitled Glass Eclectica at the Mill Gallery in York from 4 December to mid January with wall pieces, sculptures and functional glass.

The Western Australian Glass community is saddened at the news of Peter Riley's passing and his tremendous contribution to kilnforming with his superb kilns that are around this state and across the nation. What a gracious and giving man he was.

The Ausglass Christmas party held at Belinda and Ian Kay's place 7 December. Yes, George Taniani doesn't do photos well. (It is something the WA members have come to expect and rewards are posted to get a decent photo of our quirky, talented artist)



Greg Ash's solo exhibition "Eclectica"

Northern Territory

by Jon Firth, ntrep@ausglass.org.au

We haven't been washed or blown away yet but there's less than inspiring activity up here. Not surprising really, the "Build-up" is in full swing, so daily the weather fluctuates between 99% humidity, 35 degrees and pouring rain, thunderbolts and lightning. We have already had a cyclone, though it was a bit of a non event.

We are still seeking Expressions of Interest from Ausglass members for our inaugural national Ausglass Show: "Invitro Veritas". To date we have a total of nine EOIs and this does not an exhibition make. The show dates are 11-31 of July 2014. So if you think you might want to expose yourself to the Top End's collectors, let us know (drop a line to ntrep@ausglass.org.au) and we'll send you an entry form in due course.

That's about it from the steamy far north.

Queensland

by Debra Robinson, qldrep@ausglass.org.au

As the Christmas season and the summer heat descend upon us, all is quiet within the Queensland glass community.

Tina Cooper's glass studio now seems to be well settled into the new premises and is currently showing her "Cornucopia" exhibition until March 2014.

Lisa from Glass Xpressions here on the Gold Coast was accepted into this year's Swell sculpture exhibition on Currumbin Beach. This exhibition has been gaining huge popularity over the last few years and draws artists from all around the world. Congratulations to Lisa for her acceptance.

Dave Palmer recently fired up his unique mobile hot shop for a series of small classes and to make work for an exhibition at Logan City Art Gallery. This gallery is a dynamic and tireless supporter of artists in the South East Queensland region with a comprehensive program of in-house workshops and exhibitions. 2013 has seen the gallery present some fabulous exhibitions featuring a wide range of talented artists from the diverse, multi-cultural community of the local area. I wish them continued success in 2014.

Next, I would like to say a big thank you to Jane for facilitating the calendar of events in recent months - I believe this is going to be a very helpful service to those of us in far-flung regions into the future. (*Ed: This was your idea, Deb! We're just following through on your terrific suggestion.*)

And finally, I would like to wish all of my fellow Ausglass members a happy Christmas with friends and family and a fruitful and positive New Year.

Tasmania

by Helene Boyer, tasrep@ausglass.org.au

At the Wagga conference, long-time Tas member Arthur Sale was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by the Ausglass Board for his years of voluntary support, firstly, to the Ausglass website (an immense amount of time and effort was given to keep the web site functioning) and, secondly, for his work as a Board member. James Dodson was very happy to deliver the certificate to Arthur on returning to Tassie.

Congratulations go to Leigh Roberts for being among the 30 finalists in the second 'Bay of Fires Art Prize'. The prize is judged on 8 June and the exhibition continues until 30 June at Parnella Gallery in St Helens.

November saw very disappointing news that our submission for a group exhibition at Hobart's 146 Artspace in 2014 was not successful, however Tassie members continue to collaborate, share ideas and expertise and to plan for opportunities to exhibit our work. Small regional groups in the north and south overcome geographic isolation with regular inter-studio visits. One such group of mainly flameworkers, northern 'Glass Gals', have met monthly since the first Ausglass meeting this year and finished off with a late November lunch.

Well Done to Merinda Young whose 'Helping Hoping Healing' windows for the Mersey Community Hospital, Latrobe received a Highly Commended in the Architectural Glass project award at The MAGE, Mansfield, Victoria. Great news too for Bronwyn Holmes who has been notified that some of her beads will be included in the upcoming Lark Press book '1000 Beads' to be published in April 2014.



Great to catch up!
Fellow exhibitor and WA member Greg Ash, Christine Hannan, Jan Clay, Helene Boyer at the Craft Fair



Jan Clay and son Shasa



Some of Christine's work on display



Barbara Ashby, Bronwyn Holmes, Helene Boyer (talking as usual), Fiona Holmes (also our hard working national Ausglass bookkeeper), Christine Hannan

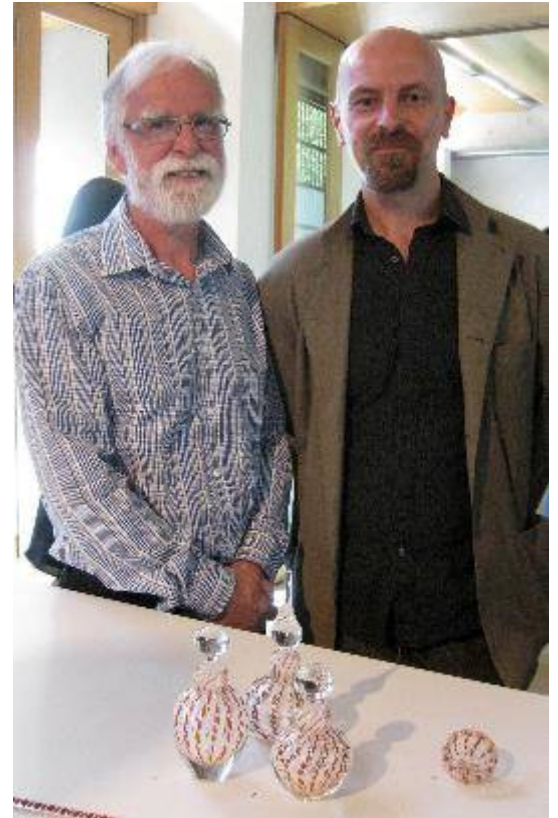
Special Congratulations to Master Craftsman James Dodson for an outstanding exhibition at Design Tasmania, Launceston, of retrospective and current creativity. "In The Making" (29 November 2013 – 16 February 2014) celebrates 30 years of sculptural and production work after establishing his studio at Tasmanian Glassblowers, Breadalbane in 1984.

I would like to thank all Ausglass Tas members for their support and cheerful collegiality in 2013. Best Wishes for a very relaxing and safe Christmas and New Year period and I look forward to meeting up again in 2014.

Helene Boyer



James' stunning new designs



Likely lads James Dodson and Peter Bowles, currently collaborating on new directions at James' studio



James prepares to deliver his exhibition floor talk at Design Tasmania

New South Wales

by Jeff Hamilton, treasurer@ausglass.org.au

“Allude” exhibition by Maureen Williams at Sabbia Gallery opening on 20 November 2013

We had Ben Sewell and Maureen Williams in conversation and it was a beautiful and intimate opening. Below is a quote taking from the artists in conversation.

Ben Sewell:

“The imagery you use in the work, how you use landscape, is kind of fragmented and repetitious. Is that a composition device or as part of a narrative of your work?”

Maureen Williams:

“The five blocks and land pieces are very fragmented to me, as that is how an aerial view of the land would look and how actual human beings have changed the landscape. And also how nature changes it as well. If you refer to the fragmentation of the rounded forms, I think of these as my people, in different situations and in particular the windows in my work. It is a situation that is separate from what is going on as well and I call them Within Without all the time because some of my people are within the window, in a different situation and the others are without. And I know you will all make of it what you will, but I do love lines. I love the open view as you fly over the Simpson Desert and how you see that nature's made lines in the sand and how a road runs straight through and cuts it and makes a line in the sand.”



With Light in Mind

Jeff visited the Maitland Regional Gallery last Friday to view the exhibition "With Light in Mind", a collaboration of paintings by Tanya Robertson-Cunninghame and stained glass by her partner Greville Wilton

Greville Wilton, of Golden Wattle Studios in Glen Innes, NSW, would be the first to declare he is no artist. He is an excellent leadlighter. But making that statement denies the brilliant design skills on display in this exhibition. Together with Tanja Robertson-Cunninghame they make an awesome team. This whole exhibition at Maitland Regional Art Gallery is predicated on close collaboration. Tanja has produced an enormous body of exciting new canvases referencing the Australian modernist abstract canon and it is these which form the basis of the 16x stained glass panels on display.



Greville's design and engineering skills also came to the fore in setting up the show and making full use of the space available in the atrium of the gallery's main entrance. A welded steel frame is attached to the ceiling and from this the stained glass works are suspended on steel cable. Each panel is cleverly framed in a welded steel frame comprising a fin of metal into which the lead cane is inserted: this provides an essential foil of darkness to separate the glass from its background and allow it to live in the ambient space

I particularly enjoyed the placement of stained glass panels in the stairwell and installed over the glass of the back exit. And the surprise pieces in the balconies also delight the senses. All in all a great exhibition, one which should raise the profile of Golden Wattle immensely but also go a long way to furthering the somewhat marginalised artform of contemporary stained glass.



South Australia

by Ursula Halpin and Nikki Marcel, sarep@ausglass.org.au

It's that celebratory time of year and there are many congratulations due.

We saw the graduation of Liam Fleming, Llewellyn Ash and George Agius from the Associates program at the Jam Factory. They're exhibiting with all of the Jam's Associate graduates in Generate 2013 which can be seen until 18 January.

For more details see <http://www.jamfactory.com.au/now-showing.php>



The team at the JamFactory

Congrats to UniSA's Drew Spangenberg for getting into the Jam Factory Associate program for 2014. He's also going to be heading off to Pilchuck mid 2014 under a new scholarship.

Congrats to Bachelor of Visual Arts Honours graduate Christina Smith and Bachelor of Visual Arts Undergraduates Alice Mahoney, Nikki Marcel, Raquel Austin-Abdullah and Lowana Schmucker who all successfully completed their UniSA degrees specialising in glass.

Chris Boha and Tom Yeend who will be heading over to the Canberra Glassworks for the month of February as part of their student residency program.

Michael Scarrone Curator of the Wagga Wagga National Glass Gallery came to Adelaide for a whirl wind tour and selected students for the Wagga Wagga National Student Art Prize. He also imparted his wisdom to the 2015 Ausglass Conference Committee in a very informative handover meeting that was well attended by our keen planning committee.

The Ausglass conference planning is going great guns with a program of talks lectures workshops and demos close to being finalised!

They are also always looking for more volunteers to help out on the many subcommittees and students are very welcome too.

Contact Verity Burley to get involved xovezaj@hotmail.com

Zoe Woods has just completed a 6 week TFAiR Residency at the Canberra Glassworks and is working on a show that will open on the 30th of January at BMG.

Natasha Natali is still on a high from her working holiday to Europe and writes...

I was lucky enough to be invited to take part in an exhibition in Bologna, Italy: "VARIATIONS", another small format exhibition by Trevisan International Art. It was held at Galleria De Marchi, Via De Marchi 19, Bologna, Italy from 16-28 November 2013.

The exhibition had an array of work from artists who enjoy confronting a small but lovely size to work with. This was a high class exhibition in which each piece will turn out to be a precious jewel to be discovered and admired for its uniqueness, as well as seen in comparison with the other works. 'Variations' exhibited the creative artworks of 72 artists from more than 30 countries.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have gone to the opening and met the curator, Paola Trevisan. She is a lovely lady and we will be keeping in touch for future opportunities.

There is a slideshow of the exhibition on YouTube, the photographer really captured the vibe and atmosphere of the exhibition really well, check it out: TIA 2013 Bologna Variations

<http://www.trevisan-international-art.com>

Best wishes for the festive season

Ursula Halpin & Nikki Marcel



Natasha Natali



The exhibition opening in Bologna

Peter Riley

In 2008, while discussing the possibility of purchasing a larger kiln with Ian Dixon, it was made perfectly clear that the only person to speak to was Peter Riley. I rang Peter to ask if he would build us a new kiln, "I have retired" was the reply. Knowing the quality of Peter work I had my heart set, and was not going to give up that easily. I had also been warned that I may receive this answer, so was prepared to do my best to get a Riley kiln.

It did not take Peter long to agree to help us and build a kiln, we were delighted.

We received our beautiful kiln in March 2009, it was love at first sight. What we did not count on was keeping Peter as a dear friend. His genuine excitement for glass and kilns had us enjoy many lovely conversations. Peter was always there to help with any questions no matter how small, and his encouragement was very valuable to me.

I was so happy to meet Peter in Hobart at the Ausglass Conference and to witness the launch of the Cooking Glass website. I remember Peter being anxious to finish this work as he wanted his knowledge for all to share.

Peter was a true gentleman, I feel lucky to have had him as my friend and I will miss him.

Anne Sorensen, Bouvard, WA



The kiln that Peter built (for Anne Sorensen)

I communicated with Peter Riley fairly often when I decided to design a vitrigraph furnace. We had several financial interactions regarding refractories and elements for my small kiln and its crucible (and several follow-ups), and even more later regarding the Internet and publicity. Peter was always really helpful and a man to be appreciated. I will miss him. My best wishes to his family. He had an effect on me and on many.

Arthur Sale, Howrah, TAS

To us he was our dad and extremely clever and knowledgeable, but from the calls and cards we have received, it has really shown us the high regard people in the glass community had for him. He always used to say he was a bit of a loner and didn't have any real friends as he was terrible at faces and names. I think he would be overwhelmed at the beautiful and admiring things that have been said about him. He was very wrong about the friends bit.

Jen, Peter's daughter



Recently I sent out an email/letter to those members of Ausglass who indicated they were Collectors. If we missed some of you who haven't put their hands up as 'Collectors', then here is a slightly shortened version.

As the role of the Collectors' Rep, is to make Ausglass more inclusive and interesting for collectors, the whole point of my being here is to listen to what you want and to try to bring some great value to collector members. What would make Ausglass more useful to you?

We're looking for your ideas on what you think could be done to improve and enhance the experience for collectors. The Board is investigating updating the website and is taking comments and recommendations from its members, so its a great time to voice your opinions of what you would like to see (and equally, what you do not want). For those of you who don't use computers on a regular basis, we would love to hear from you about how you like to be engaged, and in what form you want to receive your communications. My contact details and the Ausglass mail address are at the bottom of this letter. Any emails or website content for collectors will be mailed out to you so that you are always kept informed.

We're not just looking at the website. What about activities? A Collectors' forum? A section of the newsletter for collectors, perhaps? Organised studio or gallery visits? We're keen to hear your ideas, and find a forum to share experiences and tips. Given that we are spread across Australia, face-to-face events for all probably won't be feasible, but if we develop a good network and mechanism for keeping in touch, we'll be able to get to know each other, and meet up when events allow.

So, get those ideas coming in - the more creative the better. I've already had some really interesting responses to my email, and I'll collate these shortly and send them out to gauge the interest. Email me at collectorsrep@ausglass.org.au, or write to me at the Ausglass mailing address shown below.

Ausglass
Level 5, 574 St Kilda Road
Melbourne VIC 3004

If you didn't receive the email or letter aimed at Ausglass Collector members, please let me know so that we can add you to the list for future communications.

And of course, if you'd like to be included in the collectors mailing list please send an email through to exad@ausglass.org.au

Happy Christmas (and happy collecting).

Jennifer Hay
Collectors' Representative
collectorsrep@ausglass.org.au

“Flair” 2014

Estelle Dean, exhibitions@ausglass.org.au

National Ausglass Exhibition
Perth Western Australia
2-23 July 2014

This Ausglass Exhibition is open to all glass artists wishing to participate in a National exhibition. It offers an opportunity to bring together an intriguing and eclectic collection of contemporary glass. Equally it is an opportunity for the community to experience and delight in the works of some of Australia's most renowned and emerging glass artists who explore the versatility of glass as a creative medium.

Flair 2014 aims to:

- Promote glass in an inclusive way and to encourage experimentation within the art medium.
- Present an exciting exhibition that offers an insight into contemporary glass practice;
- Provide the City of Perth with a showcase of Ausglass members and other glass practitioners, within a national context

Keydates

4 April

Postmark DEADLINE for entry registration and CD/DVD or online entry payment

1pm - 4pm, 23 June

10am -12 noon, 24 June

Delivery of Art work to:

Gallery Central

17 Aberdeen Street, Perth WA 6000

24 June

Start Install by Gallery Central Staff and Flair Curator

2 July

Opening Night 6.30pm

24 July

De-installation and packing

Catalogues will be included where possible in the returned artwork or posted to your nominated address

28 July

Artwork pickup by Freight company as arranged by Entrant

Flair



EXHIBITION 2 – 23 July 2014







www.gallerycentral.com.au

12 Aberdeen Street, Northbridge
Western Australia
www.ausglass.org.au



Tis the season to be Jolly
and Good Will to All

Please consider helping
your fellow Glassies by
becoming a Board

Member. Be part of the decision making process to assist Ausglass in working together to provide a better service for our members. Many of the Board members are now at the end of their term and need to be replaced. We are all volunteers and many hands make light work as they say.

Therefore on behalf of the Board of Ausglass I attach the following:

- Nomination form for Ausglass Board of directors
- Nomination for Ausglass State Representative

Please return your nominations by 3 January 2014

The AGM will be held in mid February 2014. Please watch your emails in the New Year for further information. We are currently trying to set a date that complies with our constitution and our auditors and doesn't clash with anything.

If you require any further information or clarification please contact either Tegan Hamilton (our new Company Secretary) or myself.

Estelle Dean

Secretary (outgoing)
secretary@ausglass.org.au

Tegan Hamilton

Secretary (incoming)
secretary@ausglass.org.au

Now recruiting

If you're keen to get involved with the background machinations of Ausglass then we'd love to have your help.

We're currently looking for volunteers for the following roles:

- Treasurer
- Newsletter Editor
- State Rep Liaison
- Website Coordinator

Vaguely interested or want some more information on any of the above roles? Contact us at exad@ausglass.org.au.

Australian Craft Awards

Christine Atkins, Nicholls, ACT

In November the winners for the inaugural Australian Craft Awards were announced. Among those who received an award were Christine Atkins and Blanche Tilden. Christine was awarded both the Lighting and Best in Glass categories while Blanche took out the Jewellery category. The full list of winners can be found at http://craftawards.com.au/craft2013/winners_list.asp



GrassRoots

Gerry King, Crafers, SA

Gerry King has been selected by the USA organization GlassRoots as Artist of the Week.

<http://glassrootsinc.tumblr.com/tagged/gerry-king>

Glass Roots Inc is a non-profit organisation that provides the youth of New Jersey with a unique opportunity to develop and expand their minds and their confidence through the creation of glass art.

They blogged him with
 “King creates glassblown landscapes on some of his works that are similar to that of watercolor or oil paintings. Each work is classic and beautiful with patterns and designs that are combined to produce unique stories in their own way but has an overall theme of nature that we love.”



*Sentinel Vase 01_2004
 800 mm High
 Photo: Grant Hancock*

Festival of Glass

Drysdale, VIC

The fourth annual Festival of Glass happens in mid-February 2014 in Drysdale, Victoria. Each year, the Festival attracts thousands of visitors and the 2014 Festival adds two new attractions to its popular regular features.

Glass Expo

The heart of the 2014 Festival of Glass is a glass Expo, which features stalls by around fifty local and interstate artists, craftspeople and companies; demonstrations of glass-working techniques; the prize-winners of the annual Drysdale Glass Awards; and an hourly chance to win glass collectibles donated by exhibitors. The 2014 Expo is on Sunday February 16 2014 between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. at Christian College, 40 Collins Street, Drysdale. (Melway 238 G8) At this new, well-ventilated venue, exhibitors and visitors can enjoy the exhibits and activities in comfort. Entrance to the Expo is free and each year it attracts thousands of visitors.

NEW ATTRACTION 1. The 2014 Expo will include 'Glass on Film' - a festival of short films presenting the art, craft and industry of glass.

Visitors to the 2014 Expo can enjoy a full day out in Drysdale, visiting the nearby monthly Drysdale Market, visiting local wineries, restaurants and olive farms and riding the historic Bellarine Peninsula Railway between Drysdale and Queenscliff

'Bottleneck Guitar' evening

Eat and drink to the sounds of blues band Mr Black & Blue and celebrate the place of glass bottlenecks in blues music. A popular feature of the 2013 Festival of Glass. Saturday 15 February 2014 at the Harvester Moon restaurant, 2320 Portarlington Road, Bellarine. (Bookings and enquiries: 5259 3200)

Workshop

NEW ATTRACTION 2. The 2014 Festival will host a series of workshops run by Festival exhibitors, several of whom have won awards for their work. Dates and places will be confirmed closer to the Festival – please visit the web site and/or blog.

The Festival of Glass is an initiative of the Drysdale & Clifton Springs Community Association Inc. Unique in Australia, it joins a handful of similar events worldwide. We thank our major sponsors the City of Greater Geelong and the Bendigo Bank.

More information

Doug Carson (Festival Convenor)
0418 371 308, ccd21@bigpond.net.au

Festival website: www.festivalofglass.net.au

Festival blog: festivalofglass.blogspot.com



Exhibits from previous Festivals of Glass



Lara Glass 2013



Lucy Cleary 2012



V & A Glass 2012



Vicki Crowley-Clough 2011

SOFA Chicago 2013

By Kirra Galleries

SOFA CHICAGO, the world's foremost fair devoted to Sculpture, Objects, Functional Art and Design welcomed 70 dealers from 11 countries exhibiting an array of three dimensional artworks. According to the management of SOFA there were more than 34,000 visitors to the show from Thursday, 31 October to Sunday 3 November 2013.

Kirra Galleries have exhibited at SOFA Chicago since 2004 and this year was our 10th trip and also the 20th anniversary of the SOFA exhibition at Chicago's Navy Pier. This year we represented the work of Evelyn Dunstan, Christopher John, Mikyoung Jung, Simon Maberley, Peter Nilsson, Ruth Oliphant, Harriet Schwarzrock, Benjamin Sewell, Tim Shaw, Crystal Stubbs, Yusuke Takemura, Emma Varga and Robert Wynne.

The planning for each year's trip to Chicago starts almost when we get back onto Australian shores, and this year was no different. When the decision to attend is made, artists are contacted, and plans commence. Curating the show is difficult given that we know that we will have a booth, and that the size will be 20 feet x 24 feet, but location of the booth is unknown until about 6 weeks before we leave! Therefore a number of sketches are made with various options for walls so that each artist's works is optimally displayed – this is done without knowing the exact size of the work or the colour palette! Then in mid September the exhibitor kit arrives – the first thing we look at is location – and this year we were allocated booth 101... at the entrance to the hall, so nobody can miss us!! Then the design process is in full swing, more plans are drawn, artists are contacted for dimensions of the work, floor and wall pedestals are hired, lights are ordered, and then as the end of October draws nigh we have to pack the stock ready for its journey to Chicago. The work is co-ordinated in Sydney and is air freighted to Chicago – this year 8 pallets! We arrive at Navy Pier on the morning of Tuesday 29 October, collect our badges and look over at the structure which was designed on paper – and it seems to work! And in front of us is the job of unpacking 8 pallets of stock – first thing, find the tool kit... not an easy task. The boxes are placed around the booth according to our original plan

– but as you can imagine, things change! Over the course of the next 14 hours the boxes are unpacked, pedestals arranged, and wall pedestals drilled into place. By midnight we are reasonably happy with the layout so we headed home for a rest before starting again.

Wednesday morning arrives and we drag ourselves out of our warm beds, rug up and head back to Navy Pier. We spent the day putting the finishing touches to the booth and then the electricians are booked to do the lighting – we have ordered 55 lights for our booth and the electrician has to start directing the lights onto the work – this job takes about 3 hours and in the end we have just enough lights (thank goodness as they charge \$170 for every extra light ordered!!!)

Opening night was on Thursday 31 October – and it is a relief to get to opening night after nearly 3 days of setting up!! As usual the opening was a wonderful evening, meeting up with a number of collectors who have become friends, meeting new collectors, talking about the amazing work we are exhibiting and ultimately making sales!



*The Kirra Team at SOFA Chicago 2013 – opening night 31 October 2013 (Halloween, hence the hats!)
Back: L-R: Yusuke Takemura, Tim Shaw, Crystal Stubbs, Peter Nilsson
Front: L-R: Emma Varga, Suzanne Brett, Mikyoung Jung, Ruth Oliphant, Vicki Winter*

The Hon Roger Price, Australian Consul General in Chicago, and his lovely wife Robyn, joined us on opening night and were full of praise for our selection of artists and the booth layout. We also had the pleasure to meet up again with Amelia and Chris from the Chicago Austrade office.

Each year we are contacted by the Corning Museum of Glass and asked if any of our artists would be interested in doing a demonstration at their mobile glass blowing studio – they drive a very large truck into the exhibition space at Navy Pier, lift up the sides and there is an, almost complete, glass blowing studio!! This year Crystal Stubbs and Tim Shaw demonstrated at the show and were both very well received, with a number of people visiting our booth at the conclusion of their demonstrations to see their work.



Crystal Stubbs demonstrating at SOFA Chicago



Tim Shaw demonstrating at SOFA Chicago

Apart from the amazing exhibition space and the glass blowing demonstrations there are a number of talks and lectures that happen throughout the weekend of SOFA Chicago and another of our artists, Emma Varga, who is celebrating her 40th year in the Studio Glass Movement, held a VIP Conversation on Saturday afternoon, and the title of her presentation was "My First 40 Years in Glass", so we are now looking forward to the next 40 years!

We were the only Australian gallery exhibiting at SOFA this year, showing the work of twelve glass artists - and we were lucky enough to be joined by seven of the artists we were representing. The help the Gallery received from everyone was amazing and it made the whole experience so much more enjoyable, and visitors to our booth loved being able to meet and talk to the artists.

Australian Glass Art and Australian artists are well respected by other Galleries and international artists and this year we had collectors from the USA, Canada and Israel who purchased the work of Australian artists represented by Kirra Galleries.

The other Australian artists we caught up with at SOFA Chicago were Lisa Cahill (represented by David Richard Gallery), Matthew Curtis (represented by Pismo Gallery), Noel Hart (represented by Jane Sauer Gallery), Nick Mount (represented by Thomas R. Riley Galleries) – and also represented at SOFA were Tom Moore (Litvak Gallery), Keith Rowe and Kayo Yokoyama (Mattson's Fine Art).

Vicki Torr

The Vicki Torr awards are upon us -
Get your votes in now!

It's a time to be Merry and a time to
vote!

As a much loved Australian glass artist,
whose early death on 22 August 1992
after a long illness stirred the glass art
community. Tributes showed just what
a warm and appreciated personality
she was. As a result, the Ausglass
Board proposed in Summer 1992/3 to
devote the auction proceeds at each
biannual conference towards a Vicki
Torr Memorial Fund to be used to
promote scholarships and glass artists.

The Vicki Torr Memorial Fund started
by providing a prize - the Vicki Torr
Memorial Scholarship for the best work
by an emerging artist at the Members'
Exhibition held at each conference.

As the amount of money in the fund
grew, the Board also instituted the Vicki
Torr Online Gallery Prize, awarded
annually for works shown in the
Ausglass Online Gallery by an
emerging artist. This has now become
an important event, with all Ausglass
members voting in December/January.
A Winner will be announced at the
2014 February Annual General Meeting
in Adelaide.

If you would like to be considered for
this prize then please forward your
information and images to
onlinegallery@ausglass.org.au as
entries and eligibility is being looked at
now.

Vote for your favourite on-line glass
work at...

www.ausglass.org.au/vicki-torr.php
(The voting will be open from the first
week of January)



Kirra Illuminating Glass Award

(KIGA)

In conjunction with Fed Square, Kirra Galleries is pleased to announce the inaugural Kirra Illuminating Glass Award (KIGA).

The Award aims to celebrate Australian and New Zealand artists, identify unique skills and highlight the creative practice of glass art and the prize for the winning entry is AU\$15,000.

Artists are invited to submit entry forms and provide us with their concepts for **internally-lit glass sculptures** to be created and exhibited as part of The Light in Winter 2014.

Further details including the entry form can be found here - www.fedsquare.com/kiga

If you have any queries regarding the prize or its intent please contact me at peter.kolliner@kirra.com

I look forward to receiving your proposed entries and entry forms, and I wish all and every member of Ausglass and their loved ones a happy festive season.

Kirra Galleries

Keydates

- Submit your interest by 10 February using the following criteria.
- For your entry to be considered you must submit conceptual drawings/technical concepts or professional photographs to Kirra Galleries (suzanne.brett@kirra.com) by 10 February 2014.
- Artists will be advised of their selection by email on 24 February 2014.
- Should you be selected professional photographs of the works are required for the KIGA Catalogue and are to be sent to Kirra Galleries (suzanne.brett@kirra.com) by 7 May 2014.
- Works are to be delivered to Kirra Galleries by 26 May 2014.
- The winner is to be announced at the opening of the exhibition on 3 June 2014 at the exhibition opening which will run until Sunday 30 June 2014.
- A Peoples' Choice Award Trophy will be awarded 17 June 2014.

Invitro Veritas

11-13 July 2014, Darwin

Friends, Romans, Glass Artists, show us your work

Darwin's climate in June-July is one of the best this country has to offer: warm, sunny and guaranteed not to rain. So imagine an exhibition of Australian art glass, in a bright airy gallery, a stones throw from the sparkling waters of Darwin Harbour and imagine your work being part of this show.

The NT membership invites expressions of interest from Ausglass members Australia-wide, to participate in this show.

The gallery is booked, we just need your participation, please register an expression of interest in an email to ntrep@ausglass.org.au

Numbers are looking a little low at the moment – we're looking for another 20 EOIs otherwise the show will be cancelled. Even if you are still thinking about it we'd appreciate hearing from you

Jon Firth, NT Rep



THE COLLECTIVE VISION

For those of you who attended the Collective Vision conference earlier this year you are about to receive a little holiday reading in the mail – the Conference Papers are hot off the printing press and winging their way to you. If you attended the conference and haven't received an email from me confirming your postal address please drop a line to exad@ausglass.org.au.

This 150-page publication is a collection of the speeches, discussions, awards and photos from the event with transcriptions by the following presenters:

- Tina Oldknow
- Dr Robert Bell
- Sandy Benjamin
- Peter Campbell
- Dominic Fonde
- Dr Gerry King
- Peter Kolliner
- Kristin McFarlane
- Dr Denis O'Connor
- Bandhu Scott Dunham
- Gervase Pearce
- Greg Piper
- Robert Reason
- Phil Stokes & Suzana Zaper
- Angela Thwaites
- Blanche Tilden
- Emma Varga
- Dr Sunny Wang



For those of you who didn't attend the conference but would like a copy of the document then they are available to buy:

Within Australia: \$38.50 (inc GST) plus postage
 International: \$35.00 (ex GST) plus postage

(We calculate the postage based on where it's being sent)

If you'd like one or want some further information then please just send an email to exad@ausglass.org.au with your name, postal address.

And we'd really like your feedback on the document so we can make the next conference doc, bigger and better (and lighter!) – email [exad](mailto:exad@ausglass.org.au) with your thoughts and suggestions for SA conference document.

States of Illumination

Verity Jasmin Burley

13-16 February 2014
Adelaide

Ausglass conferences always leave people feeling inspired and are a whole lot of fun!

Something usually happens that you didn't expect to see, hear or witness and past delegates usually leave talking (up until the next conference) a lot about things that they learnt, adding to their infinite wisdom of the material. It is something we all love to work with and enjoy on different levels. It has created communities of people (for thousands of years) that enjoy one common love affair – Glass. Believe it or not the world is full of glass lovers!

The South Australian Glass Community is putting together an awesome conference based on previous conference feedback and is harnessing a deliverable program that will intrigue almost anyone. Most of the 2015 Planning committee or 'Team 2015' have taken on board certain responsibilities in organising each conference aspect and are concentrating our collective thoughts around the general theme of 'light' which can really lend itself to the medium or vice versa. The fluidity, the movement, tactility, technology and simply being pyromaniacs at heart who just like playing with fire are conjuring up a programme for the Nation that will be every Ausglass members highlight for February 2015

The 2015 South Australian Ausglass Conference Planning Committee (Team 2015) comprises

Gerry King
Chairperson

Pauline Mount
Interim Chair/ Exhibitions, Studio & Gallery Tour Co-Chair

Verity Jasmin Burley
Ausglass President / Conference Director

Ursula Halpin
State Representative / Venue Chairperson – UniSA Liaison

Tom Moore
Demonstration & Workshops Chairperson - Jam Factory Liaison

Kristel Britcher
Program Sub-committee

Stephen Skillitzi
Studio & Gallery Tour Co-Chair

Danielle Rickaby
Entertainment Chairperson

Amalia Ramisau
Registration Sub-committee

Tim Shaw
Auctioneer

Emma Klau & Peta Cowan-Goh
Accommodation Sub-committee

Madeline Prowd
Demonstration Sub-committee Chairperson

Deb Jones / Jess Loughlin & Christine Chloewa
Gate 8 Venue
Hospitality Sub-committee

Jaan Poldas
Documentation

Amy Sierp-Worth, Janice Vitkovsky, Wendy Fairclough
Grants, Fundraising & Sponsorship Sub-committee

Hayley Anne Carpenter, Natasha Natale
Trade Show Sub-committee

Alex Valero
Finance Sub-committee

Geoge Agius, Llewelyn Ash
Volunteer Sub-committee

Gabriella Bisetto, Karen Cunningham, Nick Mount
Committee mentors & members

We will be keeping everyone updated on the program as things progress and are all very excited about the conference especially the party!

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About the newsletter

The Ausglass newsletter is produced on a voluntary basis

All care is given to submissions and it is at the editor's discretion as to what will and won't be published

It is published quarterly and distributed to all Ausglass members via email on the members@ausglass.org.au distribution list

The next newsletter will be published in March 2013