

## BRENDEN SCOTT FRENCH

*Brenden Scott French has earned a reputation as one of Australia's most innovative and thought-provoking glass artists. Human behaviour, character and narrative are the foundations of exploration in Brenden's work. His kilnformed sculptures and wall pieces are carefully layered and assembled to develop pattern and form with this physical process reflecting our proclivity to turn stories of personal and social history into grand, national narratives. In particular, Brenden imagines and creates a place called 'Futures Pass', the recurring landscape of which reveals a complex tale of place and identity. His work delves into the character of the explorer and adventurer in this landscape. Careful consideration of medium and technique is characteristic of his work, with a lively interplay between formal technical elements and gestural, expressive painterly surfaces. As opposed to its luminescent qualities, it was the strong hues, opacity and density of colour that attracted Brenden to the medium of glass and he enjoys working with its immediate and spontaneous nature. Here we see him further exploring its qualities of transparency. As Brenden notes, "in the real and in the imaginary, my work has patiently evolved. As my understanding of the material develops so too does my relationship with the world."*

*Brenden has trained extensively in glass practice, completing a Bachelor of Visual Arts at the Sydney College of the Arts in 1997 and a Bachelor of Art with Honours at the Canberra School of Art in 2003. Brenden has also undertaken residencies at the Canberra Glassworks, University of South Australia and the Northlands Creative Glass Centre in Scotland. He has received numerous awards including the Ian Potter Cultural Trust Award (2001), the Lino Tagliapietra International Scholarship to study at the Pilchuck Glass School in Seattle (2001) and the Stephen Procter Fellowship (2007).*

### BIOGRAPHY

- 1969 Born Toowoomba, Qld
- 1997 Bachelor of Visual Arts, Sydney College of the Arts
- 1999 Associate of Design, Jam Factory Contemporary Craft and Design, Adelaide
- 2000 Artist in Residence, University of South Australia, Adelaide
- 2003 Bachelor of Arts (Honours), Canberra School of Art glass workshop, Australian National University, Canberra
- 2007 Artist in Residence, Northlands Creative Glass Centre, Scotland, UK
- Artist in Residence, Canberra Glassworks
- Artist in Residence, Glass workshop, Australian National University, Canberra

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 "Futures Pass Remains", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2011 "Open negative", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2010 "Future pass ...and other short stories", Jam Factory Contemporary Craft and Design Centre, Adelaide
- 2007 "Artefact of the Accident - Predator", Canberra Glassworks
- "Artefact of the Accident", Jam Factory Contemporary Craft and Design Centre, Adelaide

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Beaver Galleries)
- "Master Glass", BMG, Adelaide
- Ranamok Glass Prize, Canberra Glassworks and touring nationally
- 2010 "Masterworks in miniatures", Kirra Galleries, Melbourne
- "The sum of parts", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- Imago Gallery, Palm Desert, California, USA
- SOFA Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, USA (Beaver Galleries)
- 2009 "Look Forward", Traver Gallery, Tacoma, USA
- "Collect 09", Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
- "Whitehot", Asialink touring show, Gallery of Art and Design Silpakom University, Bangkok, Thailand
- Ranamok Glass Prize, Canberra Glassworks and touring nationally
- "Southern lights", Kirra Galleries, Melbourne
- 2008 "In Essence - The Legacy of Stephen Procter", Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- Ranamok Glass Prize, Canberra Glassworks and touring nationally
- "Hunks of Glass", ANCA Gallery, Canberra
- 2007 Ranamok Glass Prize, Canberra Glassworks and touring nationally
- 2003 Ranamok Glass Prize, touring nationally



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- 2002 "Dialogue", Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney  
Ranamok Glass Prize, touring nationally
- 2001 "A Little Drop of Kindness", Craft ACT, Canberra  
"Glass Art in Australia", Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
- 2000 "Quadrivium's Finest", Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney  
"South Australian Glass", Despard Gallery, Tasmania  
"Visionary – New Australian Glass", Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney  
RFC Glass Prize, Australia

#### **AWARDS / COMMISSIONS**

- 2011 ArtSA Independent Makers and Presenters Professional Development Assistance, SA
- 2009 ArtSA Independent Makers and Presenters Professional Development Assistance, SA
- 2007 The Stephen Procter Fellowship, Glass Workshop, Canberra School of Art, Australian National University, Canberra
- 2001 Lino Tagliapietra International Scholarship, Pilchuck Glass School, Seattle, USA  
The Ian Potter Cultural Trust Award, Ian Potter Foundation, Australia
- 2000 Finalist RFC Glass Prize, Australia  
Emerging Artist Project Development grant, Arts SA, Adelaide

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- 2011 "Landscapes of glass", Annemarie Lopez, *Australian Art Review*, Issue 27

#### **COLLECTIONS**

- Northlands Creative Glass Collection, Scotland, UK.