

## BRIAN HIRST

Brian Hirst is a leading figure in the Australian studio glass movement. He creates distinctive hand blown glass pieces of deceptively simple form but with extremely rich and graphic surfaces. Brian's keen interest in the history of glass is often reflected in his work, but his imagery and choice of vessel forms places the work in a very contemporary context. His use of gold and silver lustres recalls the iridescent surfaces of classical Roman glass and the flecked gold leaf of the inner surfaces echoes the subtleties of Japanese makie lacquer. A recent development for Brian is the method of Italian canework in strong colours inside the vessels that contrast with the highly decorative external surfaces. Other pieces are more subdued in colour, but still exhibit Brian's absolute mastery of glass-making techniques.

Brian Hirst studied at Monash University and has lectured at both the Canberra School of Art and Sydney College of the Arts. His work is represented in numerous national and international collections, including the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra Museum and Gallery, Australian National University, National Gallery of Victoria, Powerhouse Museum, Queensland Art Gallery; Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art (Japan), Corning Museum of Glass (New York) and Ebeltoft Glasmuseum (Denmark).

### BIOGRAPHY

- 1956 Born Gippsland, Vic
- 1977-79 Diploma of Arts, Monash University, Gippsland campus, Vic
- 1981-82 Tutor, Sydney College of the Arts
- 1982-83 Board Member, Crafts Council of NSW
- 1984-85 Vice-President, Australian Association of Glass Artists
- 1987-88 Senior Lecturer, Canberra School of Art, ANU
- 1989-91 Member, Executive Committee, Australian Association of Glass Artists
- 1993 Guest Lecturer, Glass Workshop, Canberra School of Art, ANU
- 1994 Guest Lecturer, Glass Workshop, Canberra School of Art, ANU  
Guest Lecturer, Sydney College of the Arts
- 1994 Lecture tour of Japan: Tama University, Tokyo; Utatuyama Craft Center, Kanazawa; Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, Sapporo
- 1995 Guest Lecturer, Creative Glass Center of America, Vineland, New Jersey, USA
- 1995-98 Member, Executive Committee, Australian Association of Glass Artists
- 1997 Guest Lecturer, GAS Conference, Tucson, Arizona, USA
- 1998 Guest Lecturer, Tama Art University, Tokyo, Japan
- 1999 Guest Lecturer, Ausglass Conference, Wagga Wagga, NSW
- 2000 Guest Lecturer, Urban Glass, New York, USA
- 2001 Guest Lecturer, Wanganui Polytechnic, NZ
- 2002 Guest Lecturer, Metropolitan Contemporary GlassGroup, Leo Kaplan Modern, New York, USA  
Guest Lecturer, Contemporary Art Gallery of NSW Society, Sydney
- 2003 Guest Lecturer, Bay Area Glass Institution, San Jose, California, USA
- 2004 Guest Lecturer, Sydney College of the Arts, Sydney University
- 2005 Guest Lecturer, Glass Art Society award presentation, Adelaide
- 2006 Guest Lecturer, "Australian Glass", Coburg Glass Prize symposium, Coburg, Germany  
Guest Lecturer, Newcastle Region Art Gallery, NSW  
Guest Lecturer, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gympie, NSW
- 2007 Guest Lecturer, Osaka University, Japan
- 2008 Guest Lecturer, Gems from the National Art Glass Collection, Tweed River Art Gallery, NSW

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 "Brain Hirst", Barry Friedman Gallery, New York, USA
- 2008 "Brian Hirst", Galerie B Baden, Baden, Germany
- 2007 Yamaki Art Gallery, Osaka, Japan  
"Brian Hirst - Glass Sculpture Engravings", Annandale Gallery, NSW
- 2006 "Collect", Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK
- 2005 Steninge World Exhibition of Art Glass 2005, Sweden  
"Form and Shadow", Narek Galleries, Tanja, NSW

- 2004 "Definition", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
2003 "Brian Hirst", Global Art Venue Fine Art, Seattle, USA  
2002 "Sacred surface - Silent surface - Project space", Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York, USA  
"Relationships in form" Quadrivium, QVB, Sydney  
2001 "Surface", Beaver Galleries, Canberra (joint with Roslyn Kean)  
2000 "Reflection, Contemplation", Lake Russell Gallery, NSW (joint with Roslyn Kean)  
Strasbourg Art Fair, France (Clara Scrimini Gallery, Paris)  
1999 Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
Miller Gallery, New York, USA  
"Silent Surface", Quadrivium, Sydney (joint with Roslyn Kean)  
1998 "Sacred Surface", UTS Gallery, Sydney (joint with Roslyn Kean)  
1997 Gallery Nakama, Tokyo, Japan  
1996 Makers Mark Gallery, Sydney  
1995 The Azabu Museum of Arts and Crafts, Tokyo, Japan  
"Glass Now", Tokyo, Japan  
The Glass Gallery, Bethesda, Maryland, USA  
1994 Gippsland Regional Art Centre, Morwell, Vic  
1993 "A Celebration of Glass", Narek Galleries, ACT  
"Two Australians", The Glass Gallery, Bethesda, Maryland, USA  
1992 "Object and Image Series", Blaxland Gallery, Sydney  
1986 "Cycladic Series", Gates Gallery, Sydney  
1985 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne  
1982 "Glass Connection", Blackfriars Gallery, Sydney

#### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 "Monash Momentum", Kirra Gallery, Federation Square, Melbourne  
2009 SOFA Chicago (Barry Friedman Gallery, New York, USA)  
2008 "Gems from the National Art Glass Collection", Tweed River Art Gallery, NSW  
2006/07 Australian Glass 2006, Toronto, Canada  
"20 Years On", Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Denmark  
2006 Steninge Slott, Sweden  
2005 "The Cutting Edge", cut & engraved glass, curated by Robert Bell, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, NSW  
"Transformations: The Language of Craft", National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
San Francisco Art Fair and Palm Beach Art Fair, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York, USA  
2003 "Recent Glass", Odos Gallery, Lorne, Vic  
"Brian Hirst Bungay Art House", Glen Eira City Council Gallery  
"Canberra Glass 2003", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"The next decade", Habatat Galleries, Michigan, USA  
2002 "Material Culture, Aspects of Contemporary Australian Craft and Design", National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
"Glass Art in Australia", Quadrivium, Sydney  
"Celebrating 30 years at Nancy Hoffman Gallery", New York, USA  
"Facets of Australian Glass", Leo Kaplan Modern, New York, USA  
"Contemporary Glass Exhibition", Shanghai Museum of Fine Art, China  
2001 "Glass Art in Australia", Quadrivium, Sydney  
"Glass 2001", Without Pier Gallery, Melbourne  
2000 Habatat Galleries Millennium Exhibition, 28th Annual International Invitational, Pontiac, Michigan, USA  
Renwick Tour- Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney  
Adam Whitney Gallery, Omaha, Nebraska, USA  
"Glass - a celebration", Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York, USA  
"Shattering perceptions", Dennon Museum, Michigan, USA  
Museo del Vidrio Monterrey, Mexico  
1999 "Contemporary Australian Craft to Japan", Power House Museum touring exhibition, Japan and Australia  
"Drawn in Form", City Gallery, Brisbane  
"Objects of Desire", Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York, USA  
"Handmade Shifting Paradigm", Singapore Art Museum, Singapore  
"Contemporary Australian Craft", Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, Sapporo, Japan

- "The Magic of Venice", Qualita Fine Art, Las Vegas, USA  
"Documenta - 98", Kanazu, Japan  
Contemporary works from the Saxe Collection, Fine Art Museum, San Francisco, USA  
SOFA New York (Miller Gallery), USA
- 1998 "Masters of Australian Glass", Quadrivium, Sydney  
"Australian Glass - 10 Artists", Gallery Enomto, Osaka, Japan  
"Contemplating the bowl", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne  
"Australian Glass - 10 Artists", Gallery Enomto, Osaka, Japan
- 1997 Hsinchu International, Habatat Galleries, Taiwan  
"Objects of Ideas", Crafts Council of Queensland, Brisbane
- 1996 "Director's Choice", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne  
"Frozen Fire - Contemporary Works in Glass", Academy of Arts, Easton, Maryland, USA  
Esposizione Internazionale del Vetro Contemporaneo, Venice, Italy  
"The First 10 Years", The Glasmuseum, Ebeltoft, Denmark  
"Objects of Ideas", Crafts Council of Queensland, Brisbane  
24th Annual International Invitational, Habatat Galleries, Michigan, USA  
"25 at 25", Society of Contemporary Crafts, Pittsburg, USA
- 1995-96 "Glass from Australia 1995": The Glasmuseum, Ebeltoft, Denmark; Galerie L, Germany; Standtisches Museum, Germany; Glasmuseum Rheinbach, Germany
- 1995 23rd Annual International Invitational, Habatat Galleries, Michigan, USA  
National Craft Award, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1994 "World Glass Now", Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, Sapporo, Japan  
22nd Annual International Invitational, Habatat Galleries, Michigan, USA  
"Pacific Rim Glass", GAS Conference, Oakland, California, USA  
Blaxland Gallery, Sydney
- 1993 "Ten Guineas Show", Blaxland Gallery, Sydney  
Chicago International New Art Forms Exposition, Chicago, USA  
"The Bowl Show", Meat Market Craft Centre, Melbourne  
"Two Australians", The Glass Gallery, Bethesda, Maryland, USA  
21st Annual International Invitational, Habatat Galleries, Michigan, USA
- 1992 "International Directions in Glass", Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth  
Crystalex Collection, Lemberk Castle, Czech Republic  
Chicago International New Art Forms Exposition, Chicago, USA
- 1991 "Appreciating the Medium", Glass Artists' Gallery, Sydney  
"Challenging the Medium", Blaxland Gallery, Sydney  
"Ten Guineas Show", Blaxland Gallery, Sydney  
"The Glass Bowl", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
- 1990-91 "Art Glass from Australia": Galerie Gottschalk-Betz, Frankfurt, Germany; The Glass Gallery, Bethesda, USA; Galerie Art de Vere, Luxemburg; Galerie L, Hamburg, Germany; Rob van Doel, Den Haag, Holland
- 1989 ANZ Glass Prize, Glass Artists' Gallery, Sydney  
"A Free Hand - 40 Years of Contemporary Australian Crafts", Powerhouse Museum, Sydney  
"International and Australian Glass", National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- 1988 Contemporary Craft Survey, Power House Museum, Sydney  
"Glass Australia '88", Meat Market Craft Centre, Melbourne  
4th National Studio Glass Exhibition, Wagga Wagga, NSW  
ANZ Glass Prize, Glass Artists' Gallery, Sydney
- 1987 "The Bowl Show", Meat Market Craft Centre, Melbourne  
"ACT Collection", Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
- 1985 "Australian Hot Glass", Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
- 1984 "Australian Crafts '84", Meat Market Craft Centre, Melbourne  
"Glass '84", Tokyo & Kobe, Japan
- 1983 2nd Glass Biennial, Wagga Wagga, NSW
- 1981 "Contemporary Glass - Australia, USA, Canada and Japan": National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto, Japan;  
National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Japan  
1st Glass Biennial, Wagga Wagga, NSW
- 1980 Beaver Galleries, Canberra

## AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2007 Master of Australian Crafts - Glass  
2003 National Glass Collection, Wagga Wagga, NSW  
2000 Commission, Westin Plaza Hotel, Singapore  
1998 Adobe Computer Awards  
1997 Commission, Sydney Casino  
1996 Commission, Melbourne Casino  
1995 Australia Prize Medallions, Royal Australian Mint, Canberra  
1994 Grand Prize, Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art Prize, Sapporo, Japan  
Australia Prize Medallions, Royal Australian Mint, Canberra  
Australian Opera Trophy  
1993 Australia Prize Medallions, Royal Australian Mint, Canberra  
1992 Australian Opera Trophy  
Exterior lighting for Southbank (Expo Site), Brisbane  
1991 Ausglass Award, "Appreciating the Medium", Glass Artist's Gallery, Sydney (joint award with Meza Rijdsdijk)  
Australia Council grant for exhibition USA-CGCA Conference  
Australia Council grant to attend Interglass Symposium, Czech Republic  
Australia Prize Medallions, Royal Australian Mint, Canberra  
1990 The Australian Opera Trophy, presented to Dame Joan Sutherland at Sydney Opera House  
Australia Prize Medallions, Royal Australian Mint, Canberra  
1988 Conceptual Glass Award, Glass Australia '88, Meat Market Craft Centre, Melbourne  
1987 Parliament House, Canberra  
1984 Australia Council grant to attend Glass '84 in Japan as Australian representative  
1983 Diamond Valley Art Award, Vic

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2006 *Transformations: The Language of Craft*, National Gallery of Australia  
2005 *Australian Glass Today*, Margot Osborne  
2002 *Australian Art in the National Gallery of Australia*, National Gallery of Australia  
2001 "Artists in Glass, Late 20th Century Masters in Glass", Dan Klein  
*Developing the Collection - Acquisitions 1999 - 2001*, National Gallery of Australia  
1999 J Edwards, *Glass Magazine*, Spring  
"New directions", Cassie Proudfoot, *Canberra Times*, 4 February  
1997 *Masters of their Craft*, Noris Ioannou  
1996 *Glass Art*, Peter Layton  
1995 *Australian Studio Glass - The movement, its makers and their art*, Noris Ioannou  
1992 *The Craft Movement in Australia - A History*, University of New South Wales Press, Grace Cochrane  
1991 *Decorative Arts and Design from the Powerhouse Museum*, Powerhouse Publishing, E. Bilney (Ed.)  
1990 "Art Glass from Australia", *Neues Glas*, Autumn  
1989 *Glass - A Contemporary Art*, Dan Klein  
1985 *Craft Australia Year Book*  
1984 *Craft Australia Year Book*

## COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; South Australian Art Gallery, Adelaide; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane; Artbank, Sydney; Canberra Museum and Gallery; Powerhouse Museum, Sydney; Wagga Wagga City Art Gallery, NSW; Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences, Sydney; Victorian State Craft Collection, Melbourne; Australian National University Collection, Canberra; University of Canberra; Diamond Valley Art Gallery, Vic; Gippsland Regional Art Gallery, Vic; Guang Dong Province, China; Ebeltoft Glasmuseum, Denmark; Musee Atelier de Verre, France; Glasmuseum, Hentrich, Germany; Kunstmuseum, Dusseldorf, Germany; Dai Ichi Museum, Nagoya, Japan; Koganezaki Glass Museum, Shizuoka, Japan; Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto, Japan; Yokohama Museum, Japan; Corning Museum of Glass, New York, USA; Evansville Museum, Indiana, USA; Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco, USA; Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Texas, USA; Mobile Museum of Art, USA; Seattle Art Museum, USA.