

RUTH OLIPHANT

Ruth Oliphant is an emerging glass artist who is concerned with the interrelationships between place, visual memory and perception. She is intrigued by the way impressions of a destination are filtered through memory and experience, with her most recent work based on drawings of buildings around Sydney's Paddington. Paying homage to the profound influence of architecture on the heart and identity of our environment, the works also develop the notion that the occupants leave behind visual mementos of their presence and that these embedded memories shape our visual experience of sites. Referencing the role of glass in architecture, Ruth's pieces suggest windows and are constructed by layering flat sheets of glass embellished with sketching of urban scenes. Whilst each layer speaks of the two dimensional, in combination they create a three dimensional space and the suggestion that any representation is incomplete without all layers of perception - visual, emotional and intellectual. Ruth invites us to navigate street scenes which speak of the poetic facilities of the mind as much as of the sites they depict.

Ruth Oliphant completed a Bachelor of Arts/Visual majoring in glass at the Australian National University in Canberra, graduating with Honours in 2008. Although only a recent graduate, she has already received significant recognition for her work being a finalist in the Ranamok Glass Prize in 2007 and 2008, receiving the Ranamok People's Choice Award in 2008, the Embassy of Spain Award in 2008 and the Vicki Torr Memorial Prize in 2009. Her first solo exhibition is with Beaver Galleries in September 2009 and was part of a prize awarded by the gallery in 2008.

BIOGRAPHY

- 1977 Born Canberra
- 1997-99 Studied Architecture, University of Canberra
- 2001-03 Certificate in Furnishing (Leadlighting and Stained Glass), Holmesglen TAFE, Melbourne
Apprentice in Traditional Stained Glass restoration and construction, Melbourne
- 2004-08 Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours) majoring in glass, Australian National University Institute of the Arts, Canberra
- 2008 Co-ordinator, "Open Slather", Ausglass Members' Exhibition

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 Beaver Galleries, Canberra

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 30th anniversary Ausglass Members' Exhibition, Hobart
- 2008 "open slather", Ausglass Members' Exhibition, Australian National University, Canberra
"Emerge", Glass Art Society exhibition, Portland, Oregon, USA
Ranamok Glass Prize, Canberra Glassworks, Canberra
"Layer: Reflections on Place", Canberra Glassworks, Canberra
School of Art Graduating Show, Australian National University, Canberra
- 2007 Ranamok Glass Prize
- 2006 "Flare", Kamberra Winery, Canberra
- 2005 "Curators Pick", Kamberra Winery, Canberra

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2009 Ausglass Student Award - Sabbia Exhibition Prize
Vicki Torr Memorial Prize
- 2008 Ausglass Student Award - Beaver Galleries Exhibition Prize
People's Choice Award (Canberra), Ranamok Glass Prize
Embassy of Spain Award
Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society Award
- 2007 Canberra Glassworks Residency Award
- 2006 Scholarship to Pilchuck Glass School, Seattle, USA
- 2002 Runner up, Stained Glass Apprentice of the Year
- 2001 Stained Glass Apprentice of the Year

PUBLICATIONS

- 2009 ABC TV *Collectors*, review of Ausglass exhibition, 10 July



81 Denison Street
Deakin ACT 2600
Canberra Australia
T 02 6282 5294
F 02 6281 1315
E mail@beavergalleries.com.au
W www.beavergalleries.com.au

"Drama and discovery in glass", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 8 September