

ANNETTE BLAIR

Annette Blair's glass sculptures explore notions of identity and personal narrative, looking at the relationships we often have with utilitarian objects and their ability to capture a feeling of a place, time or person. Annette uses the form of familiar household objects as her starting point and adds a variety of imagery and textures that remind her of home. She uses glass enamels in combination with blown glass and cold working techniques to create depth, texture and colour, often further enhancing the pieces in stunning still life arrangements. As Annette explains, "Combining these elements as beautiful tableaux, these objects gain new life as reimagined versions of themselves crafted in glass, I see them as portraits of a moment in time and I aim to evoke these shared nostalgic connections with my audience". Although she draws on her own nostalgia, Annette expresses universal notions of memory and familiarity captured within her exquisite glass sculptures.

Annette Blair graduated in 2004 with a Bachelor of Visual Arts with Honours from the Canberra School of Art at the Australian National University. Since graduating, Annette has exhibited in numerous group exhibitions in Sydney, Adelaide and Canberra. Annette also regularly works as a gaffer and travels to teach glassblowing and glass painting both nationally and internationally. In 2023, Annette Blair was the winner of both the Vicki Torr International Year of Glass Prize and the Vicki Torr People's Choice Prize for her piece 'A Quiet Afternoon in May 2022'. She has been a finalist in numerous awards including the Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize, Ranamok glass prize, Hindmarsh Prize and the National Still Life Award at Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery. In 2020, Annette was awarded the Flux Mentorship Award for a funded mentorship at the Canberra Glassworks.

BIOGRAPHY

- 2001-4 Bachelor of Visual Art with Honours, Glass Workshop, Canberra School of Art, Australian National University
- 2003 Student exchange program - Alberta College of Art and Design, Calgary, Canada
- 2005-6 Traineeship, JamFactory, Adelaide
- 2009 Residence, Sydney College of the Arts glass studio, University of Sydney
- 2010 - Instructor, glass blowing, Canberra School of Art, Australian National University
- 2011 Instructor, glass blowing and enamelling workshop, Canberra School of Art, Australian National University
- 2012 Thomas Foundation Artist in Residence, Canberra Glassworks
- 2013 Teaching Assistant, Pilchuck Glass School, Washington, United States
- 2014 Residence, Pilchuck Glass School, Washington, United States
- 2015 Instructor, Pilchuck Glass School, Washington, United States
Residence, Canberra Glassworks
- 2017 Residence, Pilchuck Glass School, Washington, United States
- 2018 Residence, Canberra Glassworks
- 2020-2021 Flux Mentorship, Canberra Glassworks

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 "Quietly spoken", Canberra Glassworks
- 2018 "Somewhere familiar", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2013 "Held within" (with Jeremy Lepisto), Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2007 "Preserves", JamFactory, Adelaide

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize, The South Australian Museum
- 2020 "Small works 2020", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2019 Klaus Moje Glass Award, Thor's Hammer, Canberra
- 2018 "Confluence", Canberra Glassworks
- 2017 "Small works 2017", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Refraction", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Hindmarsh Prize", Canberra Glassworks
"Still: National Still Life Award", Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, NSW
- 2016 "Reflections", Parliament House, Canberra
"Smokestack", Canberra Glassworks
"Hindmarsh Prize", Canberra Glassworks
- 2015 "The Enchanted Forest", Pilchuck Glass School auction awards exhibition, Seattle, USA
"Illumination: Ausglass Members Exhibition", Adelaide
- 2014 "Small Works 2014", Beaver Galleries, Canberra

- 2013 "Canberra Glass 2013", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2012 "Ranamok Glass Prize", touring Exhibition
"Alphabet", Craft ACT
"Eat!", Canberra Glassworks
"Encore", Glass Artist's Gallery, Sydney
2011 "Ranamok Glass Prize", touring Exhibition
"Drink!", Canberra Glassworks
"Glimpse", Chalk Horse Gallery, Sydney
2010 "Limited Lines", Canberra Glassworks
2009 "Encore", Glass Artist's Gallery, Sydney
"Special vessels: Glasses, Goblets, Cups and Flutes", JamFactory, Adelaide
2008 "Limited Lines", Canberra Glassworks
"Ranamok Glass Prize", touring Exhibition
"Surface Exploration", Kirra Gallery, Melbourne
"Open Slather" Ausglass members exhibition, Canberra
2007 "Limited Lines", Canberra Glassworks
SOFA Chicago, Chicago, USA (Kirra Gallery)
"New Work 07", Gaffer Studio Glass, Hong Kong
2006 "High Brow Low Brow", JamFactory, Adelaide
"Finale", Uber Dosh, Adelaide
SOFA Chicago, Chicago, USA (Kirra Gallery)
"Ranamok Glass Prize", touring Exhibition
2005 "Biennale", JamFactory, Adelaide
"Carnivale", Kamberra Winery, Canberra
"Southern lights", Ausglass members exhibition, Adelaide
"New Design 2005", Object Gallery, NSW
2004 "Green - Graduating students exhibition", Canberra School of Art, Australian National University, Canberra
"Ranamok Glass Prize", touring Exhibition
"Glass Art Society International Student Exhibition", New Orleans, USA
"Kamberra Wine Glass Prize", Canberra
2003 "Ceremonial Vessels for the Drinking of Water", Canberra School of Art, ANU
"Basement", Alberta College of Art and Design, Canada
2002 "Kamberra Wine Glass Prize", Canberra
"Reflect", exhibition of student work, Bega, NSW
2001 "Kamberra Wine Glass Prize", Canberra
"Canberra School of Art Drawing Prize", Australian National University, Canberra

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2023 Winner, Vicki Torr International Year of Glass Prize
Winner, Vicki Torr People's Choice Prize
2022 Finalist, Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize
2020 Flux Mentorship Award, Canberra Glassworks
2019 Finalist, "Klaus Moje Glass Award", Thor's Hammer, Canberra
2017 Finalist, "Still: National Still Life Award", Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, NSW
Finalist, Hindmarsh Prize, Canberra Glassworks
CAPO Canberra Glassworks award
2016 Finalist, Hindmarsh Prize, Canberra Glassworks
2015 Juror's Choice Award, Pilchuck Glass School auction, Seattle, USA
2014 Finalist, Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize
2013 Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Society young artist's award
2011 Finalist, Ranamok Glass Prize
Arts ACT Grant
Australian Council for the Arts, new work grant
Silvano Tagliapietra scholarship
2008 Finalist, Ranamok Glass Prize
Pilchuck Glass School full scholarship
2007 Project development grant

- 2006 Finalist, Ranamok Glass Prize
2005 JamFactory/Arts SA Pilchuck scholarship
Pilchuck Partner Scholarship
2004 Finalist, Ranamok Glass Prize
Takako Sano Student Scholarship
Pilchuck Partner Scholarship
2002 Westende Travelling Scholarship

PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 "Glass artist shows distinctive voice", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 28 August
2013 "Through the glass brightly", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 19 November
2009 *New Glass Review* 30, Corning Museum of Glass, USA
2008 *New Glass Review* 29, Corning Museum of Glass, USA
2006 *500 Glass Objects: A Celebration of Functional and Sculptural Glass*, Lark Books
2005 *New Glass Review* 26, Corning Museum of Glass, USA