

Contemporary Glass: Design from East London

Thursday 6 July to Sunday 5 November 2000

This special exhibition explores the versatility of glass. Strong yet fragile, glass has been appreciated for its decorative and practical qualities throughout history.

Contemporary Glass, mounted in the Geffrye's Design Centre, shows the recent work of nine selected glass-makers from East London. It shows two to three pieces by each designer, reflecting the rich variety of styles and techniques currently used within the field, including pâte-de-verre, stained, sand-blasted and blown glass. All pieces on display are for sale.

Exhibitors

Kate Baden Fuller

Marianne Buus

Beatriz Castro

Columbia Glassworks: Nick Blackmore and Ed Nevill

Tim Cunliffe

Ginger Ferrell

Gaby Kienle

Jon Lewis

Coleman Saunders

Contemporary Glass is one of a series of special exhibitions showing the best in contemporary design and craft, selected on the basis of merit. The Design Centre contributes to the economic and cultural regeneration of East London by providing a valuable one-stop resource for architects, interior designers, retail buyers and others looking for innovation and quality in current design. It is supported by the London Arts Board.

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For further information or transparencies, please contact Nancy Loader, PR Officer, on 020 7739 9893.

12 July 2000

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. To complement *Contemporary Glass* there will be a display of 19th century pressed glass in the cases outside the Design Centre. Pressed glass is made by forcing molten glass into cast-iron moulds, a technique which was devised in America in the 1820s and adopted in Europe during the 1930s. The development of hinged moulds enabled complex, highly-decorated shapes to be pressed. Such elaborate glass, which would previously have required skilled handcrafting, could be pressed cheaply and in large quantities, making it affordable for the first time to more than just the wealthy few. This collection has been kindly lent by Raymond Notley, Board Member of the Association of the History of Glass (AIHV).
2. The Geffrye is the only museum in the UK to specialise in the domestic interiors and furniture of the urban middle-class. Its displays span from 1600 to 2000, forming a sequence of period rooms which capture the quintessential nature of English interior style. The museum is set in the former almshouses of the Ironmongers' Company, elegant 18th century buildings with a modern extension designed by Branson Coates Architecture. It is surrounded by tranquil gardens, including an award-winning walled herb garden and a series of period garden rooms.
3. The Geffrye Museum is an independent charitable trust, grant-aided by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. The Trust actively seeks to attract donations and corporate sponsorship to support the museum's services and development plans.
4. **Admission:** **FREE**

Opening Hours: **Open** Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm
Sundays & Bank Holiday Mondays 12 - 5pm

Closed Mondays (unless Bank Holiday), Good Friday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day

Travel: **Tube** Liverpool Street, then bus 149 or 242
Old Street (exit 2), then bus 243

Buses 149, 242, 243, 67

Parking Limited meter parking in neighbouring streets