

The UK's major exhibition of contemporary glass announces its exhibitors for 2012

71 artists will exhibit at the fifth **British Glass Biennale** which takes place in Stourbridge from 24 August to 15 September 2012. The exhibition will be in the newly refurbished industrial space, formerly the Webb Corbett/Royal Doulton Glass factory, opening in August as a vibrant new Arts Centre.

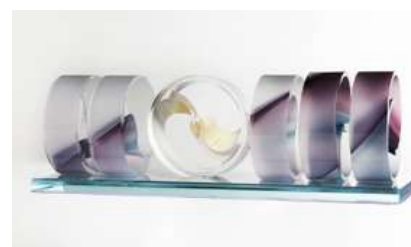
With a record 209 applicants and over 1200 images to look through, selections were a challenging task for the esteemed jury. Across two days 100 pieces by 70 artists were selected and along with a piece by juror Catherine Hough, the **British Glass Biennale 2012** looks set to be an exciting showcase of the current trends and techniques emerging within the UK glass scene.

2012 sees a worldwide celebration of 50 years of studio glassmaking and events will take place across the globe. The **International Festival of Glass**, of which the British Glass Biennale is a part, will be the centre for the UK's celebrations. With exciting work by new and emerging makers, such as Shelley Doolan and James Lethbridge, being exhibited alongside highly collected makers such as Katharine Coleman, Colin Reid and Bruno Romanelli, the **British Glass Biennale** will offer a strong statement about the UK's ongoing contribution to glassmaking worldwide.

This year's jury felt particularly delighted by the strength of the student applications. While five pieces are guaranteed a place in the exhibition each year, the jury were able only to narrow the selection down to an impressive 13 pieces made by 9 artists. Chair of the jury James Beighton commented,

"We are very excited to have been able to put together this exhibition which reflects the diversity and quality to be seen in British glass today. Each of the judges had particular favourites but in particular would like to highlight the consistently high standard of student work presented which suggests an exciting future for glassmaking in this country."

Michelle Keeling, Exhibition Curator, commented that "the **British Glass Biennale** offers a chance to track the careers of artists who are repeatedly selected each two years and with such strong new makers being selected, it is certainly an exhibition for enthusiasts to spot the 'ones to watch' for the future. With over £10,000 to be awarded, the exhibition can offer artists an exciting chance to change their careers."



Ends

British Glass Biennale
Ruskin Glass Centre, Stourbridge
West Midlands, DY8 4HF

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Contact Information

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Editor's Notes

Exhibition dates: 24 August to 15 September 2012
Winners will be announced at the Private View and Awards Ceremony on 23 August 2012

The **British Glass Biennale** is delighted to be working once again in association with the **Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers** who will be awarding £7,500 in prize money. Private collector of British glass, Mark Holford has also donated £3000 for the 'British Glass Biennale Award for Best in Show'.

An expert panel has judged the submissions, comprising:

Clare Beck, Director of Contemporary, Adrian Sassoon, London
James Beighton, Senior Curator, Middlesborough Institute of Modern Art
Régis Cochefert, Head of Arts, Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Catherine Hough, Glass Artist
Amelia Thorpe, Design & Interiors Journalist

The **British Glass Biennale** will be the inaugural exhibition in the newly-converted Ruskin Arts Centre, The Glasshouse, Wollaston Road, Amblecote, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY8 4HE. For more information, visit www.biennale.org.uk

The International Festival of Glass is an umbrella term to describe a comprehensive programme of events at venues across Stourbridge Glass Quarter that includes Glass Masterclasses (20 to 23 August), the prestigious British Glass Biennale (24 August to 15 September), and a four day Glass Festival (24 to 27 August). Although the exhibition is free, entry to the Ruskin Glass Centre over the Glass Festival weekend costs £5 (£1 for children) per day or £14.50 for a four day Festival pass and includes numerous demonstrations, exhibitions, 'have a go' sessions and of course, plenty of retail opportunities.

The West Midlands town of Stourbridge has the richest of glass making traditions and is widely regarded as 'the home of glass making'.

Images: Left - Record Keepers by Anthony Scala. Photo credit, Ester Segarra
Right – Thoughts Interrupted by Phil Vickery. Photo credit, Jo Howell
Photography

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2012 British Biennale of glass

The UK's major exhibition
of contemporary glass

Exhibiting Artists

Natalie Aird	Kate Jones & Stephen Gillies	Colin Reid
Stuart Akroyd	Tanya Gregory*	Bruno Romanelli
Kirsteen Aubrey	Rhian Haf	Karmen Saat*
Laura Birdsall	Joseph Harrington	Deborah Sandersley
Sarah Blood	Matthew Hayes*	Anthony Scala
Heike Brachlow	Siobhan Healy	Victoria Scholes
Sabrina Cant	Crispian Heath	Cathryn Shilling
Louise Cloke*	Vicky Higginson*	Jessica Irena Smith
Katharine Coleman	Katy Holford	Robyn Smith
Jaqueline Cooley	Alan Horsley*	Andrea Spencer
Mo Costalas	Catherine Hough**	Wayne Stevens
Bob Crooks	Richard Jackson	Vicky Stewart*
Jeremy Doar*	James Lethbridge	Ayako Tani
Shelley Doolan	Ruth Lyne	Louis Thompson
Katharine Dowson	Allister Malcolm	Deborah Timperley
Junko Eager	Julia Malle	Phil Vickery
Shirley Eccles	James Maskrey	Andrea Walsh
Simon Eccles	Caroline Moiret	Liz Waugh McManus
Fiaz Elson	June Morrison	Kathryn Wightman
Sally Fawkes	Graham Muir	Sue Woolhouse
Jackson Fawkes	Tracy Nicholls	Marie Worre Hastrup Holm
Frances Federer	Yi Peng	
Sara Fell	Emma Rawson*	* Student Entries
Carrie Fertig	Lujain Razouki	** Invited Juror
Catherine Forsyth	Liam Reeves	



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OF
GLASS
2012

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