



PRESS RELEASE

GLASS 2015

Festival Exhibition at Gallery TEN

NEW Exhibition – 01.08.15 – 31.08.15

Private View – 1st August 2015 – 2.00 – 4.30pm

Gallery TEN – Stafford Street - West End – Edinburgh

30 Glassmakers form the UK and beyond

Something has happened to glass. In the manner of an aunt turned fire-eater, uncle turned riverboat gambler, it has become dangerously attractive. Well-mannered and discreet has become unruly and pugnacious and seductively brazen.

It can even move, too, like Keiko Mukaide's fragile leaves sprouting from sinister amber shoots of scorched literature. Are we referencing Hiroshima? A puzzle throbs troublingly in the air, like an unmarked aircraft. Will destruction overwhelm civility, or can we rely on goodness shouldering through? Ms Mukaide will make you leave Gallery Ten in two minds. Unless you have spent more than ten seconds studying Alan Horsley's extraordinary dismembered torsos, reminiscent of Goya's Spanish war sketches. This is despair stripped naked and scoured with salt. A table piece for a banker, perhaps?

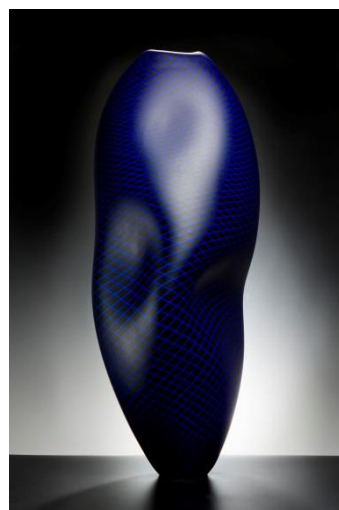
Cooler alarm is trafficked by Alex Pearce; the combination of crude wrought iron - shrapnel? spear-head? embedded in the sleek outline of clear blown glass is pregnant with metaphors; the spectator steps back involuntarily. Katya Filmus' cast panels unsettle in the same way: are these tablets from some necromancer's cookbook? The reversed copperplate, off-kilter irruptions and scarlet toenails suggest someone is up to no good.

Time to take a step back and enjoy Karen Akester's cast cartoon figures, a cheeky delight and a reminder of the vast array of techniques that glass practitioners have at their disposal these days. Yoshiko Okada's faces are more elegantly philosophical and certainly more somnolent, but their sub-aquatic dreaminess is soothing; we are not too distressed if, as Ms Okada seems to suggest, they have just fallen overboard from a banker's yacht. If he or she is lucky, they might catch a glimpse on the way down of one of Graham Muir's shimmering, sultry, vessels, half-giant shrimp, half distressed Chinese junk.

Laura Birdsall's blown vases offer a more formal void, but the serrated rim and ribbed flanks demand to be stroked; these are among the most sensual objects in the show, along with Layne Rowe's dizzying knitted vortexes which suck you in rather than ask you to consult your soul. Cathryn Shilling, another from the London Glassblowing team, takes glass knitting a stage further with her breath-taking kiln technique. Can a glass skirt be far behind?

If that thought makes you uncomfortable, brace yourself for Chantal Delporte's haunting ectoplasmic structures. They may remind you of something too long in your fridge; they also flaunt, in their eerie animalism, the inner anarchy that can drive sober aunts and uncles off the rails.

Erlend Clouston



Above Clockwise from top left – Karen Akester, Charlotte Hodes, Yoshiko Okada, Heike Brachlow, Laura McKinley & Liam Reeves

For further information concerning any of the artists in the show please contact the gallery.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Karen Akester | Laura Birdsall | Heike Brachlow | Edmond Byrne |
| Robin Crawford | Chantal Delporte | Katya Filmus | Stephen Foster |
| Charlotte Hodes | Alan Horsley | Ingrid Hunter | Peter Layton |
| Lindean Mill | Bruce Marks | Harry Morgan | Graham Muir Keiko |
| Mukaide | Paul Musgrove | Laura McKinley | Katsuya Ohigita |
| Yoshiko Okada | Alex Pearce | Pia Raeymaeker | Liam Reeves |
| Layne Rowe | Cathryn Shilling | Lene Tangen | Phil Vickery |
| Elliot Walker | | | |

Gallery TEN – 10 Stafford Street – West End – Edinburgh – EH3 7AU

Opening Times –

Tues – Sat – 10.30 – 5.30 (Mon – Sat during Festival)

www.galleryten.co.uk

infogalleryten@gmail.com

Twitter: @TENedinburgh

<http://www.facebook.com/gallerytenedinburgh>