

Margaret Alston

Experimentation with glass pastes led Margaret Alston, as a student in 1980, to research the techniques, origins and history of Pate de Verre, establishing her own personal approach which continues to be refined in the creation of her subtle, translucent vessels.

"I enjoy the deliberate and controlled making process and most compellingly the expressive nature of Pate de Verre itself, the way it refracts light, its unique weight, strength and fragility, its sound and feel, its contradictions. It can be so suggestive of other materials, evoking qualities and references which have always been central elements of my work."

Alston has exhibited extensively in the UK and internationally and her work is represented in many significant public and private collections in Great Britain, Europe and USA.

Education

MA Glass and Ceramics, Royal College of Art, London
BA (Hons) Multi-disciplinary Design, North Staffordshire
Polytechnic, Stoke-on-Trent

Selected Exhibitions

Masterpiece, with Adrian Sassoon, Royal Hospital Chelsea,
London, 2010

TEFAF, with Adrian Sassoon, Maastricht, Netherlands, 2008

British Glass Biennale, Ruskin Glass Centre, Stourbridge, 2015

New Glass: Ancient Skill, Contemporary Art Form, Blackwell
House, Cumbria, 2013

Pate de Verre – from Jungendstil to Studio Glass, European Museum of Modern Glass, Rosenau, Germany, 2012
A Passion for Glass, Dan Klein and Alan J Poole Private Collection of Modern Glass, National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, 2011
International Ceramics Fair, with Adrian Sassoon, London, 2007
Four Decades of Glass Graduates from the RCA, Dan Klein Associates at Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, V&A, London, 2007
Pate de Verre x 4, Dan Klein Associates, London, 2006
Particle Theories, Museum of American Glass, Wheaton Village, Millville, USA, 2005
21st Century British Glass, Daniel Katz Gallery, London, 2004
Glass Light Sound, Crafts Council, London, 2000
Venezia Aperto Vetro, International New Glass, Museo Correr, Venice, Italy, 1996
The Glass Show, Crafts Council, London, 1993
Clear Through to the Wood, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, 1987
Coburg Glass Prize, Coburg, Germany, 1985
Class of '82, Coleridge of Highgate, London, 1982

Selected Awards

Art in Action Prize for Contemporary Glass, British Glass Biennale
Craft Council Setting-up Grant
Fordham Glass Prize, Class of 82, Coleridge of Highgate, London