

# Ruth Shelley

Taking her cue from her love of traveling, Ruth Shelley's inspiration derives from her observation of colour, balance and tone of nature. Her gravity dropped vessels create an interplay of light, form and colour that is evocative of the natural world which surrounds us. The vessels take on their own personae and become artworks in their own right as glass sculptures. Shelley always observes how the colours and layers combine as a whole, and how light illuminates them. Shelley says: 'My aim is to redirect attention back to the colours of nature in scenery and landscape'.

The vessels are kiln-formed glass made by the 'drop out' method. Shelley cuts strips of glass and arranges them in complex layers and patterns which are fused together into a sheet. It is then suspended in a kiln on an open mould, heat is applied and gravity fluidly stretches the suspended glass to the floor of the kiln, which is then ground, polished and sandblasted into the finished vessel. Owing to the nature of the applications, Shelley's vessels are one-offs. It is not possible to make two pieces identical.

## **AWARDS**

2007, Training Grant Award, Arts Council of Wales

2008, Full Membership, Society of Designer Craftsmen

2009, Training Grant Award Arts Council of Wales

2011, Project Grant Award Arts Council of Wales

2012, Winner of Best New Gift British Craft Trade Fair

2013, Training Grant Award, Arts Council Wales

2015, Winner Glass Sellers Award, British Glass Biennale

2017, Joint Runner up CGS exhibition International Festival of Glass

2017, Winner – People's Prize, CGS exhibition International Festival of Glass

2020 Stabilisation Grant Award Arts Council Wales

2021 Selected for Objects of Comfort Film, National Museum Wales

## **SELECTED EXHIBITIONS**

2020

Full Bloom, The Byre Gallery, Hillside, Hounster Hill, Millbrook, PL10 1AJ (6/5)

Handcrafted, The Makers Guild in Wales, Craft in the Bay, Cardiff (25/9 – 24/12)

Present and Collect - Contemporary Applied Art, 6 Paddington Street, London, W1U 5QG (4/11 – 24/12)

Bedazzled - London Glassblowing, 62-66 Bermondsey Street, London, SE1 3UD (12/11 – 24/12)

2021

With Penelope Tinnis, 74b Albany Rd, Cardiff, CF24 3RS (11/3 – 3/4)

In Full View - The Byre Gallery, Hillside, Hounster Hill, Millbrook, PL10 1AJ (27/3) With Maggie Brown, 74b Albany Rd, Cardiff, CF24 3RS (6/5- 29/5)

Rosebay Willowherb, Roger Billcliffe Gallery, Blythwood St, Glasgow (5/10-12/11)

Speaker at Seminar – <http://www.just-glass.co.uk/> (30/10)

Christmas at London Glassblowing - London Glassblowing, 62-66 Bermondsey Street, London, SE1 3UD

A Festive Feast- The Makers Guild in Wales, Craft in the Bay, Cardiff (6/11–9/1 )

Makers Guild Exhibition - Turner House, Plymouth Rd, Penarth CF64 3DH 11/11 – 19/12