

## CGS and the Craft Centre and Design Gallery Celebrating the Joy of Glass in Leeds



Verity Pulford, Algae Bowls. Photo by Stephen Heaton.

by Pam Reekie

The Contemporary Glass Society (CGS) is working in partnership with the Craft Centre and Design Gallery in Leeds, UK, to present *The Joy of Glass*, a joint exhibition of contemporary glass. This is a double celebration for the two organizations, with the CGS marking its 25-year anniversary and the Craft Centre and Design Gallery reaching 40 years in 2022.

### Supporting New and Established Artists

Two exhibitions under the banner *The Joy of Glass* will be presented in a beautiful Victorian building located close to Leeds City Centre. CGS approached the Craft Centre and Design Gallery in Leeds for this collaboration because of its reputation for supporting both new and established artists and for bringing together the best of handmade contemporary art and crafts.

The exhibition includes work from a total of 25 artists that will be shown in two parts. Part One ran from April 23 through June 4, 2022, with Part Two beginning on June 11 and continuing through July 23, 2022. The selected artists in Part One included: Karen Beggs, Gina Clarke, Rachel Elliott, Magda Gay, Hannah Gibson, Nanu Hodson, Claire Lake, Brett Manley, Susan Purser Hope, Morag Reekie, Rebecca Rowland-Chandler, Sue Sinclair, and Kathryn Webley.

The work of artists Effie Burns, Kate Jones/Stephen Gillies, Steven Graham, Catherine Mahe, Caroline Moraes, Katherine Park, Verity Pulford, Karen Redmayne, David Reekie, Penny Riley-Smith, Elizabeth Sinkova, and Samantha Yates will be displayed in Part Two of the exhibition.

### Celebrating Variety and Imagination

Both organizations are pleased to be able to showcase the work of so many outstanding glass artists. CGS Chair, Susan Purser Hope, commented, "It is extremely exciting to have the opportunity to exhibit in such an impressive location as part of our celebratory tour around Great Britain. It was exciting viewing the work of a range of artists demonstrating such variety and imagination. We are all really looking forward to the rest of 2022, which is continuing our dazzling year for contemporary glass!"

Florence Hoy, Director of the Craft Centre and Design Gallery, Leeds shared, "As it's a very special anniversary for both of us this year and it's the International Year of Glass, we jumped at the chance for this fantastic opportunity to bring some outstanding glass to the city of Leeds and to give it the spotlight it so rightly deserves."

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