



HEIKE BRACHLOW

Bio

Born and raised in Munich, Germany, Heike Brachlow received her BA in glass 2004 from the University of Wolverhampton, her MA in 2006 and PhD in 2012 from the Royal College of Art in London. She primarily works as a self-employed artist from her studio in Cumbria, and as an educator and lecturer, teaching at the Royal College of Art and institutions such as the Studio of the Corning Museum of Glass and Pilchuck Glass School. Her work is represented in many museum collections including the V&A, the European Museum of Modern Glass (Germany), the National Museums Scotland, and the Tacoma Museum of Glass (USA). She has won the Jerwood Maker's Open Award in 2011 and the Glass Seller's Arts and Crafts Award at the British Glass Biennale in 2017, and her work has been exhibited in many countries including the USA, China, Japan, Korea, Australia, Italy, and Germany.

Artist Statement

My work explores the interaction of colour, form and light in glass solids. I aim to make forms capable of transformation, ideally in several different ways. My main focus is the investigation of transparent colour in glass; recently I have started to use two or more colours to achieve a personalised palette. It is possible to achieve fairly homogenous colours in this way, but I have also developed a liking for flow patterns, where the flow of glass is made visible through use of two or more colours during the casting process. Thick-thin variations of form, curves and angles, the optical properties of glass, and matt or polished surface finishes all impact the appearance of the final object. The works change depending on the viewing angle, when set into motion, and with changing light conditions. There is no defined base: my sculptures can be placed in several different ways, and they can move at the slightest touch.