

ÆSA BJÖRK

VISUAL ARTIST WORKING WITH GLASS

Studio: Breisteinvegen 234, 5111 Bergen & S12 Gallery and Workshop, Bontelabo 2, 5003 Bergen, Norway

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EDUCATION

- 1995-97 **MDES GLASS DEPARTMENT**, Edinburgh College of Art
- 1994 **EXCHANGE STUDENT GLASS DEPARTMENT OF VLADIMIR KOPECKY (UMPRUM)** The Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design, Praha
- 1991-95 **1ST CLASS BA (HONS) GLASS DEPARTMENT** Edinburgh College of Art

SOLO & TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 **BODY & SENSES (WITH FABIO MODICA)**
Whitestone Gallery Hong Kong
- 2018 **SHIELD II (IN COLLABORATION WITH TINNA THORSTEINSDÓTTIR)**
S12 Gallery and Workshop, Bergen
- 2014 **SÝN**
S12 Galleri og Verksted, Bergen
- 2013 **GAGE/ GAZE (WITH HIROMI TAKIZAWA)**
Fosdick-Nelson Gallery, Alfred, NY
- 2010 **IMPRESSIONS**
S12 Gallery and Workshop, Bergen
- 2004 **NO_ON**
KMR, Møre og Romsdal Art Centre
- 2004 **02.03.04**
Galleri Format, Bergen
- 2003 **VISION SERIES**
Logen Teater, Bergen
- 2003 **...COVER2...**
Galleri Format, Oslo
- 2002 **...COVER...**
Lepramuseet- St. Jørgens hospital, Bergen
- 2002 **3 PÅ RAPPEN**
Galleri s.e., Bergen
- 1998 **LAST D'VISION**
Visningsrommet Stiftelsen Kulturhuset USF, Bergen

COMMENTS

The largest projects I will be working on in 2023 is completing an outdoor sculpture for the historical park in Lednicke Rovne and develop new work continuing the concepts behind the work Fractures and Embers.

COLLECTIONS

- The National Museums of Scotland
Embers I-IV
- Kunstsammlungen der Veste Coburg -
Europäisches Museum für Modernes Glas
Fragments
- Nordenfjeldske Kunstindustrimuseum, Norway
Fracture I (2nd version)
- TOYAMA GLASS ART MUSEUM, Japan
Shield II
- KODE, Art Museums i Bergen
SÝN
- National Museum for art, architecture & Design,
Oslo
*First Impression from the measuring device for
negative space*
- U(P)M Museum of Decorative Arts, Prague / Novy
Bor symposium
Fracture I (1st version)
- Post- og Teletilsynet, Oslo
Vision II

PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY //
GLASS ART SOCIETY, [Digital Conference](#) //
STREAMING MUSEUM, [Arts new natures Digital
dynamics](#).

SCENOGRAPHY

- 2021 HAPPY GORILLA DANCE COMPANY
THE BODY REMEMBERS

COMMISSIONS

- 2019 / 2021 GLASS WORK FOR ANE GRAFF //
2020 GLASS ELEMENTS FOR ANTI, BERGEN

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GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023** PILCHUCK 50TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION -AUTONOMOUS ZONE, BWA WROCLAW, POLAND // GLASS, GLASS, GLASS - KUNSTBANKEN SENTER FOR SAMTIDSKUNST, HAMAR, NORWAY
- 2022** COBURGER GLASPREIS 2022, GERMANY (FIRST PRIZE) // PILCHUCK 50TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION -AUTONOMOUS ZONE, TRAVER GALLERY, SEATTLE & BWA WROCLAW, POLAND
- 2021** VU21 VESTLANDSUTSTILLINGEN, NORWAY // 1SOM1HET, S12 GALLERY AND WORKSHOP, NORWAY // BULLSEYE PROJECTS PASSAGE @THE BYRE, CAITHNESS, SCOTLAND
- 2020** GLASS IS BIOTIFUL II, BIOT, FRANCE, ONE OF THREE MAIN EXHIBITORS // STREAMING MUSEUM, ARTS NEW NATURES DIGITAL DYNAMICS. // TOYAMA GLASS ART MUSEUM, COLLECTION EXHIBITION (2019-2020) 2019-II
- 2019** DIVERSITY FOR PEACE, KARUIZAWA NEW ART MUSEUM VENICE BRANCH, PIAZA SAN MARCO, VENICE (DURING THE VENICE BIENNALE) // 47TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL AWARDS EXHIBITION, HABATAT GALLERIES, MICHIGAN, USA // 3 UMHVERFING, ACADEMY OF THE SENSES, SNÆFELLSNES, ICELAND // SOFA CHICAGO, HABATAT GALLERIES, NAVY PIER, CHICAGO // 13TH INTERNATIONAL GLASS SYMPOSIUM EXHIBITION (IGS 2018) U(P)M MUSEUM OF DECORATIVE ARTS, PRAHA
- 2018** TOYAMA INTERNATIONAL GLASS EXHIBITION, TOYAMA GLASS ART MUSEUM, JAPAN (GRAND PRIZE WINNER) // IGLASS 2018, LEVANT ART, SHANGHAI // IGS 2018, NOVÝ BOR GLASS MUSEUM, CZECH REPUBLIC // HANDMADE - SCANDINAVIAN GLASS STARTING ALL OVER, GLASMUSEET EBELTOFT, DENMARK
- 2017** HANDMADE - SCANDINAVIAN GLASS STARTING ALL OVER, THE GLASS FACTORY, BODA, SWEDEN // STRESS FIELD, 4TH DOCUMENTARY EXHIBITION OF FINE ARTS, HUBEI MUSEUM OF ART, FINE ARTS & LITERATURE ART CENTER, CHINA
- 2016** EUROPEAN GLASS CONTEXT EGC 2016 (CURATED), BORNHOLM GLASS MUSEUM, DENMARK // EUROPEAN GLASS FESTIVAL, MAIN EXHIBIT, WROCLAW, POLAND // TRANSITIONS, ECA ALUMNI GLASS EXHIBITION, EDINBURGH COLLEGE OF ART // LUXUS, LIGHT EXHIBITION, THE GLASS ART SOCIETY CONFERENCE, CORNING, NY // LONGLI INTERNATIONAL NEW MEDIA ARTS FESTIVAL, LONGLI, CHINA
- 2015** KUNSTHÅNDVERK 2015, NATIONAL MUSEUM, OSLO, NORWAY
- 2014** FRACTURED LIVES / FRAGILE EXISTENSES, NOOSPHERE ARTS, NEW YORK CITY // THE COBURG PRIZE FOR CONTEMPORARY GLASS, COBURG, GERMANY // NORDIC CONTEMPORARY GLASS, PERA MUSEUM, ISTANBUL
- 2013** NORDIC CONTEMPORARY GLASS, THE GLASS FACTORY, BODA, SWEDEN // EXPLODING BOUNDARIES: FACULTY AND STAFF EXPLORATION IN DRAWING, FOSDICK-NELSON GALLERY, ALFRED, NY
- 2011** GLASS 2011, GJØVIK KUNSTFORENING, NORWAY
- 2010** NEONJUL, S12 GALLERY AND WORKSHOP, BERGEN
- 2009** VEVRING JUBILEUMSUTSTILLING, NORWAY
- 2008** GLASS EXHIBITION, NØSTETANGEN MUSEUM, HOKKSUND, NORWAY
- 2007** VEVRINGUTSTILLINGEN, VEVRING, NORWAY
- 2006** TRANSPARENT REALISME, NORDNORSK KUNSTSENTER, SVOLVÆR, NORWAY
- 2005** 1ST INTERNATIONAL TRIENNALE OF SILICATE ARTS, KECSKEMÉT, HUNGARY // GALLERI RAMSALT, LINDESNES KYSTKULTURSENTER, NORWAY
- 2000 - 2004** CLEARLY BRILLIANT, A DECADE OF PILCHUCK GLASS SCHOOL'S EMERGING ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE, TACOMA ART MUSEUM // ARTISTS MULTIPLES IN SHOWCASE, HORDALAND KUNSTSENTER // YOUNG & HOT, EMERGING EUROPEAN GLASS ARTISTS EXHIBITION DURING THE GLASS ART SOCIETY CONFERENCE, AMSTERDAM // ATELIERENE C. SUNDTS GT. 55 HORDALAND KUNSTSENTER // STREETLEVEL, NYGÅRDSGATEN, BERGEN // EAIR PILCHUCK, RILEY HAWK GALLERY, SEATTLE
- 1994 - 1999** EMBODY, NORTHERN GALLERY FOR CONTEMPORARY ART, SUNDERLAND, UK // GLASS, ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, EDINBURGH // 25TH ANIVERSARY EXHIBITION, MHR, REYKJAVÍK // THE SCOTTISH ART STUDENTS MIXED MEDIA EXHIBITION, MACROBERTS ART CENTRE, STIRLING, SCOTLAND // ZURSEIT 94, KULTUR(EN) FESTIVAL, WAIZENKIRCHEN, AUSTRIA // PALMOVKA SYNAGOGUE, , WITH STUDENTS OF VLADIMIR KOPECKY, PRAGUE

COMMENT

During the period from 2005-2010 a lot of my time went to establishing and running S12 Gallery and Workshop in Bergen. When I first moved to Bergen in 1999 it was hard to find facilities for working with glass. None of the Universities in Norway have specialised facilities or programs for glass and exhibition opportunities for installation based or sculptural glass art are scarce. This led to S12 being established which is now an important venue of international importance as well as a forum for glass artists and artists without prior knowledge of glass who wish to experiment with glass and exhibit the results.

From 2011-14 I spent a 3 year period as a visiting artist / faculty at the School of Art and Design, Sculpture Dimensional studies at NYSCC -Alfred University, NY. After returning to Norway I was lucky enough to receive a 5 year artist working grant, which made it possible for me to develop the work Shield II which won the grand prize in Toyama 2018. In 2020 I went on to receive a major artist working grant which lasts for 10 years from the Norwegian Government. This grant supplies artists with a minimum wage (approx 50% of an average wage) which makes it possible to think more long term and work with larger projects. In 2022 I received the first prize at Coburger Glaspreis 2022 for the work Fragments.

COURSES

I find it very important to attend courses to expand my techniques and knowledge.

PILCHUCK GLASS SCHOOL, USA

2015 digital fab, lab Fred Metz // **2009** A body of glass, Mark Zirpel/Benjamin Wright // **2006** Architectural and Sculptural Kilnformed Glass, Warren Langley // **2005** Permanent image on glass, Brian Boldon/Mark Zirpel // **2001** Neon Road Test, Deborah Dohne and Fred Tschida // **1997** Casting Devices for Sculpture, Gene Koss

2014 BEK (Bergen senter for Elektronisk kunst) Arduino course for beginners.

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STIPENDS AND AWARDS

2022 COBURGER GLASPREIS *FIRST PRIZE*

2018 GRAND PRIZE *TOYAMA INTERNATIONAL GLASS EXHIBITION - PIONEERS OF CONTEMPORARY GLASS ART*

THE NORWEGIAN ARTS COUNCILS GOVERNMENT GRANT FOR ESTABLISHED ARTISTS

10 YEARS 2020-2030

THE NORWEGIAN ARTS COUNCILS GOVERNMENT GRANT FOR ARTISTS

5 YEARS 2015-2019 // 3 YEARS 2007-2009 // 1 YEAR 2002 // 1 YEAR 2001 // 1 YEAR 2000

THE NORWEGIAN ARTS COUNCILS MISCELLANEOUS GRANT FOR ARTISTS

2014 (*SÝN & IMPRESSION III*) // 2010 (*IMPRESSIONS EXHIBITION*) // 2004 (*PROJECT*)

NORWEGIAN ARTS COUNCIL

2016 ART AND NEW TECHNOLOGY (*SHIELD*) // 2003 EXHIBITION GRANT (NO_ON, KMR) //

2000 EXHIBITION GRANT (...COVER...) // 1999 EQUIPMENT GRANT // 1999 ESTABLISHING GRANT

CITY OF BERGEN

2020 INTERNASJONAL KUNST OG KULTURUTVEKSLING (EXHIBITION SHANGHAI MUSEUM OF GLASS) // 2019

PROFESSIONELLE KUNST OG KULTURILTAK (*SHIELD III & FRACTURES*) // 2018 RASK RESPONS (TRAVEL GRANT,

TOYAMA) // 2015 TRAVEL GRANT TO PILCHUCK (*DIGITAL FAB LAB*) // 2014 RASK RESPONS (*NOOSPHERE*

EXHIBITION) // 2013 RASK RESPONS (TRAVEL GRANT TO VENEZIA, *BERENGO STUDIO*) //

2009 TRAVEL GRANT TO PILCHUCK (*A BODY OF GLASS*) // 2004 PROJECT GRANT //

2003 PROJECT GRANT // 2001 PROJECT GRANT // 2000 ESTABLISHING GRANT

STIKK - NORWEGIAN CRAFTS & NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

2021 TRANSPORT AND TRAVEL GRANT (*BULLSEYE PROJECTS @THE BYRE*) & (*COBURGER GLASPREIS 2022*) // 2019

TRANSPORT GRANT (*47TH INTERNATIONAL AWARD EXHIBITION HABATAT GALLERIES MICHIGAN*) // 2018 TRANSPORT

GRANT (TOYAMA INTERNATIONAL GLASS EXHIBITION) // 2014 TRANSPORT GRANT (THE COBURG PRIZE FOR

CONTEMPORARY GLASS) // 2013 TRANSPORT GRANT (GAGE-GAZE FOSDICK-NELSON GALLERY, NY) // 2000

TRANSPORT GRANT (RILEY HAWK GALLERIES PILCHUCK EAIR EXHIBITION & CLEARLY BRILLIANT TACOMA ART MUSEUM)

2021 BULLSEYE PROJECTS *MATERIAL SUPPORT FOR THE EXHIBITION (PASSAGE @THE BYRE)*

2018 GLASMUSEET EBELTOFT *ARTIST IN RESIDENCE WORKSHOP / COLLABORATION (BY OWN MEANS)*

NORSKE KUNSTHÅNDBVERKERE (ASSOCIATION OF NORWEGIAN CRAFT ARTISTS)

2018 TRAVEL GRANT (*EBELTOFT EXHIBITION*) / 2015 TRAVEL GRANT *PILCHUCK*

PILCHUCK GLASS SCHOOL

2015 FULL SCHOLARSHIP NORWEGIAN CRAFTS (*DIGITAL FAB LAB*) // 2009 HALF SCHOLARSHIP (A BODY OF

GLASS) // 2006 NOMINATED FOR THE CORNING AWARD (ARCHITECTURAL AND SCULPTURAL KILN-FORMED

GLASS)

2005 HALF SCHOLARSHIP (PERMANENT IMAGE ON GLASS) // 2001 FULL SCHOLARSHIP (NEON ROAD TEST) //

1999 PILCHUCK EMERGING ARTIST IN RESIDENCE GRANT //

1997 FULL SCHOLARSHIP (CASTING DEVICES FOR SCULPTURE)

2006 CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS *ARTIST IN RESIDENCE GRANT*

2006 **ARTIST GRANT SPAREBANKEN VEST**

2005 **BILLEDKUNSTNERNES VEDERLAGSFOND**

1999 JUTTA CUNY-FRANZ FOUNDATION, HONORARY DIPLOMA FOR HIGH QUALITY WORK

TEACHING

2019/2022/2023 **KONSTFAK** *COURSE IN 3D PRINTING OG GLASS CASTING WITH HELENA KÅGEABRAND*

2019 **PILCHUCK GLASS SCHOOL** *SUMMER COURSE MANIFESTING SURFACES WITH HELENA KÅGEABRAND*

2016 **PILCHUCK GLASS SCHOOL** *SUMMER COURSE TRY AGAIN...FAIL BETTER*

2011-2014 **NYS CC- ALFRED UNIVERSITY / SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN, NY, USA**

VISITING ARTIST / FACULTY IN GLASS -SCULPTURE DIMENSIONAL STUDIES

2010 **S12 GALLERI OG VERKSTED** *SUMMER COURSE GLASS CASTING AND FUSING*

2005 **CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS** *TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR JUDITH CONWAY*

2003/2004 **GLASSFORUM, AVERØY** *SUMMER COURSE GLASS CASTING*

2000 **PILCHUCK GLASS SCHOOL** *TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR ANN ROBINSON*

PUBLIC ART

2023 ÅSANE SYKEHJEM, BERGEN

2021 PROPOSAL FOR CLOSED COMPETITION,

EILERT SUNDT VGS, FARSUND

2011 HELLINGE BARNEHAGE KRISTIANSAND

2009 GJØA PLATFORM STATOIL HYDRO

2008 LINDEBØSKAUEN SKOLE, FLEKKERØY

HOVEDUTSMYKNING

2005 STORD SJUKEHUS

2004 HUSNES BU OG REHABILITERINGSSENTER

OTHER WORK

2014- **S12 Galleri og Verksted**, artistic advisor

2019 **Selection committee, Irvin Borowsky International**

Prize in Glass Arts, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, USA

2017-2019 **Chairman of the Board Hordaland Kunstcenter.**

2018-2019 **Boardmember Stiftelsen Klosteret 17**

2017-2018 **Norske Kunsthåndverkere, selection committee**

2015-2017 **Boardmember Hordaland Kunstcenter**

2003-2005 **Norwegian Arts Council** *Procurement committee*

2005-2011 **Founder and CEO S12 Gallery and Workshop**

CATALOGUES AND ARTICLES

2022 **Coburger Glaspreis** exhibition catalogue.

2021 **Passage @ The Byre** exhibition catalogue & article in

Neues Glas 04/2021 // *Kunsthåndverk* nr. 160, 3-2021

2020

Glass is BIOTIFUL II, exhibition catalogue.

2019

RÜV TV. Menningin 29.05, Icelandic National TV about

Shield III and the exhibition Diversity for Peace, Venice //

Diversity for Peace, exhibition catalogue. // **Hong Kong**

Economic Journal from the exhibition Body & Senses,

Hong Kong // **Neues Glas - New Glass, 3/2019** about

Shield III and glass at the Venice Biennale.

2018

iglass 2018 Lyrical transformations exhibition catalogue.

Shanghai // **Toyama International Glass Exhibition,**

exhibition catalogue // **Neues Glas - New Glass, 4/2018**

about IGS 2018 & Toyama International Glass Prize //

Scandinavian Glass Starting All Over, exhibition catalogue.

2016

European Glass Context, exhibition catalogue

2015

Kunsthåndverk 2015, exhibition catalogue. // **Neues**

Glas - New Glass, 1/2015 about S12 // **Kampen om**

materialet, book Norwegian Crafts Association 40 year

jubilee publication.

Corning Museum of Glass **New Glass Review** nr. 36

2014

The Coburg Prize for Contemporary Glass, exhibition

catalogue. // **Aurora**, Pera Museum, Istanbul, exhibition

catalogue.

2013

Gage Gaze exhibition catalogue // **Exploding Boundaries,**

exhibition catalogue

2011

Northern Glass www.northernglass.no

2010

Koro Kunst i offentlige rom 2009 lindebøskauen skole //

Kunsthåndverk nr. 3/2010 Nærver i Absentia

2000

Kunsthåndverk nr. 79 4/00 profil

1999

Neues Glas New Glass 3/99 Jutta-Cuny Franz

1998

EMBODY katalog. // **GLASS** katalog. // **Crafts Magazine**

Nov/Des issue no. 155 // **CNN The Art Club** 22. AUG //

Bergens Tidende, Med Øyet som kamera 29. april