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Category of Links

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Las Vegas Glass Craft and Bead Expo



We returned last Thursday from the US having visited our main suppliers and also the Glass Craft and Bead Expo in Las Vegas, physically tired but mentally and artistically refreshed. Many thanks to those of you who either placed your orders earlier in the month, or held off until our return. It made life easier for us - and hopefully didn't disrupt you too much.

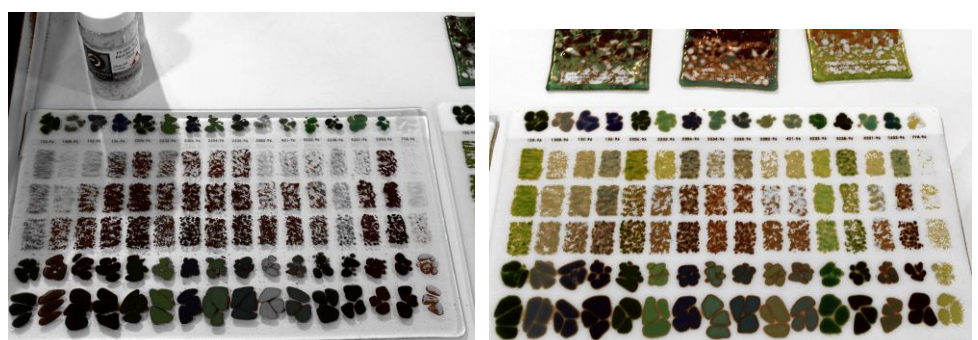
We saw a number of products at the Expo, which we think are quite exciting, and hope to share with you relatively soon. Many of them will start arriving with our next major shipment which arrives in June. Whilst the delay is a bit of a nuisance, it is a necessary evil, as many of the products, like sheet glass, moulds and frits don't like being stuffed in suitcases. Our dirty washing offers little protection for such delicate items.

Here is a preview of some of the exciting things which will shortly be on their way to us ...

Get Reactive With System 96

At Las Vegas, Uroboros released its exciting new "Reactive Red" Transparent and Opal to the ever-expanding System 96 line.

For those of you who haven't heard of reactive glasses, chemistry in these glasses causes a reaction with copper, a colorant in many blue and green glasses. When a glass containing copper is fired on Reactive glass, a reddish color is produced, either around the rim of the glass, or completely transforming it. Have a look at the pictures below to better understand the effect ... isn't it cool! We are currently testing the product, with lots of supplies arriving in the June shipment.



Colour de Verre

Until now, we have only stocked a limited number of Colour de Verre products, but having seen their new range at Las Vegas, we will now be stocking many more. Below are some of the photos of the Colour de Verre display. Whilst it was small, it was impressive.

We were particularly rapt in their candle holders and their lidded boxes. The reusable two-part candle mould allows you to create beautiful tea light holders, which can either be left plain, or embellished in lots of different ways.



The lidded boxes come in two parts – a mould for the lid and one for the base. They can be filled with any size frit, broken casting billets, or sheet glass offcuts.



Our June shipment will include the candle holder and lidded boxes moulds, together with a range of floral and animal embellishment moulds. As always, you won't have to pay more to buy locally taking into account reasonable costs of freight and local taxes.





New System 96 Colours

Spectrum had samples of three new glass colours they will be introducing later this year. They are so new, they don't even have names for them as yet. When more information is available, we'll pass it on.

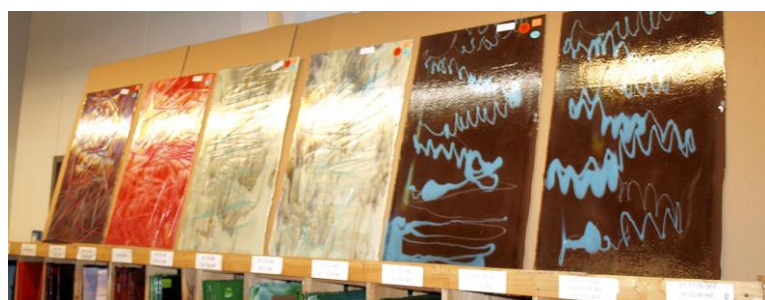


Bullseye Special Production Glasses

In February, we offered Special Production Bullseye glasses for the first time. These are "play time" glasses made by the glass workers at Bullseye, which are experimental and not part of the normal range. Many of these glasses are truly gorgeous, as some of you now know.

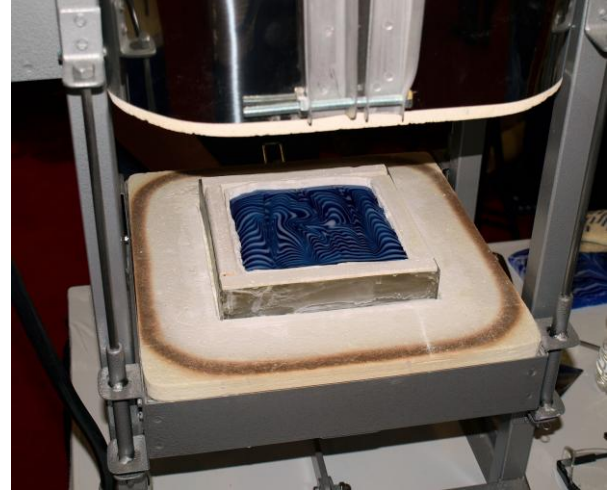
Whilst we were in the US, we had the opportunity to hand-pick more of these glasses. In February, we bought 11 different patterns many of which are already sold out.

In June, when the shipment arrives and we have photographed the glasses, you will have 32 to choose from. As you might guess, it was a bit like being a hungry child in a lolly shop.



An Upside Down Kiln?

The display which captured our imagination most at Las Vegas was what might be called an upside down kiln. We both had a play with it and were instantly hooked.



Basically, instead of working over a top loading kiln and getting all hot and bothered whilst you shape your bracelet on the former or rake your glass, you lower the bottom section of this kiln to about waist level. You can then work comfortably with the glass, but best of all, the heat remains trapped in the top of the kiln. What a fabulous idea!

The kiln also works well as a vitrigraph.

We are awaiting further technical specifications from the manufacturer, but if you are interested in learning more about this kiln, drop us an email or give us a call.

System 96 Odd Sizes - Cheap!!!

We are continuing to offer odd-sized pieces of all sorts of System 96 glasses at [significantly reduced prices](#). Details of the glasses are uploaded regularly. As they are mostly one-off pieces of glass, it will be a case of first in, first served.

“Glass Trail” Coming Soon

We took the opportunity whilst we were in the US to visit a whole lot of glass sites – museums such as the Corning Museum of Glass, the Glass Pavilion at the Toledo Museum of Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and sites with Dalle de verre, Frank Lloyd Wright art glass and Tiffany windows.

If you are interested in seeing a tiny smattering of what we saw, check out the “Glass Trail” section on the websites, which should be up in the next few weeks (time permitting).

Helpful Americans

We met lots of lovely people whilst we were in the US. So willing to help a stranger (even on the New York subway) or the Chicago transit employee who actually bought our tickets (with our money) when he saw us looking quizzically at the ticket machine.

But first prize for helpfulness must surely belong to the Standard Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles. Great information in the room and plenty of signage.



I always wondered what to do with that roll of paper next to the toilet.....

Thank you

Thank you to those new customers who have registered with us in the past month ... and to those who have continued to search the website and purchase from us. As always, your support of, and feedback about the website is very much appreciated.

Until next time, happy fusing!

Regards

Gordon Williamson and Sally Cameron-Stephen