

The Contemporary Glass Society Presenting an Array of Online Glass Gallery Exhibitions

by Pam Reekie

One consequence of the pandemic has seen the launch by the Contemporary Glass Society (CGS) of a continuous program of online exhibitions to support members. This has been especially important during the periods of lockdown and isolation that resulted from this worldwide trauma.

All of the online shows are open to CGS members, and all of the entries are available for purchase. That provides an opportunity for visitors to the CGS site to see glass artists and work that may be unknown to them. The online exhibitions are part of CGS's ongoing celebrations of their 25th anniversary as the principle supporter and promoter of artists and collectors of contemporary glass in the UK.



*Phillipa Candy, In Memorium from
The Human Condition. Photo by Zig Mroz.*

*David Reekie, Displaced I from The Human Condition,
33 cm x 22 cm x 15 cm. Photo by the artist.*



Eva Walsh, *The age of enlightenment from The Human Condition*. Photo by the artist.



Nancy Sutcliffe, *Butterflies engraving from Access Happiness!*
Photo by the artist.

Teresa Chlapowski, *The Carrier from The Human Condition*. Photo by the artist.

Exploring Aspects of the Human Condition

The autumn exhibition, which asks what makes us human, was themed around *The Human Condition*. CGS Members were invited to ponder on what characterizes the essentials of human existence from birth and continues throughout our lives. Artists created works that expressed themes that included birth, growth, emotion, aspiration, conflict, and mortality, or simply demonstrated through their glass what makes them who they are. By celebrating their own personal condition, artists were able to let their glass do the talking and showed us what they love, hate, fear, and hope for. *The Human Condition* exhibition went live on September 5, 2022, and ran through October 30, 2022. Going forward, it will be permanently on display in the CGS Online Gallery.

It was followed by the *Access Happiness!* online exhibition. With the end of the year and Christmas coming, CGS members celebrated what makes them happy and how they have spread joy through their glasswork. *Access Happiness!* was an affordable selling show with prices ranging from £50 to £500. This show introduced others to an amazing range of special Christmas presents, inspired them to look at our gloriously unique work, and enabled them to support creative people at the same time. The exhibition began on November 7, 2022, and ran through December 30, 2022.

An Enjoyable and Educational Experience

Often the shows are themed to share the breadth of styles and techniques used in glassmaking. There are renowned masters such as David Reekie as well as new makers like Amy Whittingham, installations from Bibi Smit, and beautiful engravings from Nancy Sutcliffe. Topics have covered *Astronomy and Astral Life*, *Graduates Work the Next Generation*, and *Ordinary to Extraordinary* to highlight just a few of the diverse subjects covered.

All of our previous online shows are archived on our website and can be viewed at your leisure. Contact details are available for all of the participating artists, so if there is something you like, you can contact the artist directly. Why not visit our website, tour the online exhibitions, and enjoy!

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Visit cgs.org.uk/exhibitions to view the current and past displays of exceptional contemporary glass art and find out more about becoming a member of the Contemporary Glass Society.

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