

National Glass Centre: September – December 2023 Listings

Exhibitions

Glass World

National Glass Centre

14 October 2023 – 10 March 2024

NGC Gallery

In recent years National Glass Centre has developed a permanent collection of international Studio Glass that includes work by artists from or based in thirty different countries, from Sweden to New Zealand and the United States to Japan. This exhibition presents a wide selection of the works held in our collection and creates an opportunity to celebrate the international reach of artists working in glass.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/glass-world/>

Hassina Khan

National Glass Centre

16 September 2023 – 10 March 2024

Research Gallery

Winner, Glass Society Prize 2023 Hassina Khan completed her MA in Glass at the University of Sunderland in 2022 and returned to work with us in 2023, taking part in a residency kindly funded by the Glass Society. Hassina uses glass to express English words written in Urdu text, mimicking her experience as a bi-racial, English – Pakistani person. An example of Hassina's new work has been acquired by National Glass Centre adding to the international remit of our collection.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/hassina-khan/>

Bernard Lloyd Collection

National Glass Centre

16 September 2023 – 10 March 2024

Collection and Balcony Gallery

In 2022 Bernard Lloyd donated his substantial collection of Studio Glass to National Glass Centre. This presentation of selected works from the collection continues the theme of internationalism drawing attention to the significant variations in style and technique adopted by artists working in different countries at different times.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/bernard-lloyd-collection/>



MA Design Degree Show

National Glass Centre

National Glass Centre

17 – 29 October 2023

Sunderland Creatives Gallery

Masters students in Design from University of Sunderland present their diverse practice.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/ma-design-degree-show/>

MA Glass and Ceramics Students' Showcase

National Glass Centre

23 September - 1 October 2023

NGC Gallery

University of Sunderland MA Visual Practice, Glass and Ceramics students will exhibit their final degree show in the NGC Gallery.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/ma-glass-and-ceramics-students-showcase-2/>

Family Events

Halloween Family Fun Day

National Glass Centre

Monday 23, Wednesday 25 and Friday 27 October

10am or 1pm / Minimum age 4, recommended age range 4-7yrs £20 per child, no charge for adults / Booking essential.

Get ready for Halloween with creepy crafts, gruesome glass painting, scavenger hunt, and food! Join us for fun creative activities to make and do as a family. Children must be accompanied by an adult. This event will last 3 hours.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/halloween-family-fun-day/>

Fantasy Glass Fusing

National Glass Centre

Tuesday 24 and Saturday 28 October

10.00, 11.30, 13.30, 15.00 / Age 6+ / £12 / Booking essential

Use coloured glass tiles and grains to make a solid glass artwork. Make it fiendish for Halloween or design something that can be on display all year round – it's up to you! We'll guide you through the process and then it's over to you to get creative.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/fantasy-glass-fusing/>

Keep out! Glass painting



National Glass Centre

Thursday 26 October

10.00 – 12.00 and 13.00 – 15.30 / Age 4+ £5 / Drop-in

Ward off ghosts and ghouls with a creepy glass painting of your own design. Whether you choose to paint an eyeball, a haunted house or a 'Keep Out!' sign for your room, you'll have something unique to decorate your home!

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/keep-out-glass-painting/>

Christmas events

Fused Glass Christmas Decorations

National Glass Centre

Saturday 16 December

10.00, 11.30, 13.30, 15.00 / Age 6+ / £12 / Booking essential

Make a pair of decorations to keep for years to come. Decorate a clear glass shape with coloured glass mosaics and glass grains to create an eye-catching effect.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/family-fused-glass-christmas-decorations/>

Christmas Craft

National Glass Centre

Thursday 21 December

10.00, 11.30, 13.30, 15.00 Age 4+ / £4 / Booking essential

Make your own wrapping paper, cards and gift tags. Learn how to make a mono print which you can then repeat to make a festive design. Surprise your family and friends with your lovingly handmade items.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/christmas-craft/>

Festive Family Fun Day

National Glass Centre

Friday 22 December

10am or 1pm / Minimum age 4, recommended age range 4-7yrs /£20 per child, no charge for adults / Booking essential

Get ready for Christmas with a festive Friday together. Make a range of Christmas crafts, a glass painted decoration and finish with some tasty treats. Children must be accompanied by an adult. This event will last 3 hours.



Please inform us of any dietary requirements at the time of booking.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/festive-family-fun-day/>

Fused Glass Winter Landscape

National Glass Centre

Thursday 28 December

10.00, 11.30, 13.30, 15.00 / Age 6+ / £12 / Booking essential

Make a winter scene captured forever in solid glass. Decorate clear glass with coloured glass mosaics and glass grains to create an artwork that you can display for years to come.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/fused-glass-winter-landscape/>

Adult Courses

Drink and Draw Life Drawing

National Glass Centre

Monday 13 November and Monday 11 December / 18.45 – 20.45 / £16

Artist: Shaney Barton

Suitable for ages 18+

Join us for a special Drink and Draw life drawing session with artist-tutor Shaney Barton. Expect a sociable and laid-back class with great models, eclectic music and drinks served, as well as relaxed one to one tuition, as needed.

Each class will feature a mixture of poses from 3 minutes up to 40 minutes with female and male models. We provide A3 paper and basic materials, but feel free to bring your own art equipment along.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/drink-and-draw-life-drawing/>

Glass Tableware Club

National Glass Centre

5-week course running on Saturdays from 11 November / 13.00 – 16.30 / 5 weeks / £125

Artist: Midori Shinmura

Suitable for ages 16+

A five-week fusing, slumping and casting class for both beginners and experienced students.

Over the 5 weeks, students will be shown the basic skills of Fusing, Slumping and Casting glass along with kiln firing techniques. After practical demonstrations and some experimentation, students will be able to create a hollow dish and bowl shapes, as well as coasters and candle stands etc.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/glass-tableware-club/>



Introducing... Fused Glass

National Glass Centre

15 October, 4 November, 12 November or 10 December/ 10.00 – 16.00 / £80

Artist: Sue Woolhouse

Suitable for ages 16+

One day course suitable for beginners and intermediate learners.

Design and make your own decorative glass pieces using this kiln glass technique. You will be shown how to cut glass and learn about different effects that can be achieved in the kiln.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/introducing-fused-glass/>

Stained Glass Leaded Technique - Beginner's level

National Glass Centre

24 September or 22 October / 10.00 – 14.00 / £50

Artist: Gill McGinley

Suitable for ages 16+

An introduction to basic stained glass techniques.

7th Century saint Benedict Biscop brought artisans from Europe to create Monkwearmouth-Jarrow Priory. They made the first stained glass window in England and installed it in St Peters Church, a stone's throw from the National Glass Centre.

Learn the ancient skills of how to cut glass, lead the cut glass and solder lead joints to create a beautiful small stained glass panel of your own. This course is aimed at beginners.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/stained-glass-leaded-technique-beginners-level/>

Stained Glass Poppy – Intermediate Level two day workshop

National Glass Centre

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 November / 10:00 – 16:00 / £150 / Two day course

Artist: Gill McGinley

Suitable for ages 16+

Make stained glass poppies using traditional stained glass techniques. Learn how to cut glass and lead the pieces together to make a finished flat panel.

This intermediate course will improve your skills and learn more advanced techniques.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/stained-glass-poppy-intermediate-two-day-workshop/>

Stained Glass & Copper Foil

National Glass Centre

30 September, 14 October or 18 November/ 10.00 – 16.00 / £60

Artist: Anna Selway



Suitable for ages 16+

Learn how to make your own stained glass and copper foil hanging ornaments. You will be taught precise glass cutting techniques, preparing the edges and how to use copper foil to create your piece. Sandblasting and engraving are optional should you want to vary the opacity of your glass creation and add mark making. We will be using solder alongside soldering irons and adding a copper wire loop to allow you to hang your ornaments at home.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/stained-glass-copper-foil/>

1 Day Introduction to Ceramics - Throwing Technique

National Glass Centre

7 October, 21 October, 4 November or 3 December / 10.00 – 16.00 / £60

Artist: Michael Emmott

Suitable for ages 16+

An introduction to working with clay.

This introductory day course in ceramics is suitable for anyone with no or little experience. Students will learn a range of throwing techniques from practical demonstrations. A chance to learn basic wheel based ceramic skills and practice throughout the day. Make a tea bowl or ornamental vessel.

The course aims to be upbeat, rewarding and allow participants to enjoy pottery at their own pace.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/1-day-introduction-to-ceramics-throwing-technique/>

Flameworked Marbles

National Glass Centre

21 October / 10.00 – 16.00 / £80

Artist: Zoe Garner

Suitable for ages 16+

In this one day class, you will make a number of marbles starting off with clear and moving on through the day to produce marbles with coloured pattering on the outside, mixed coloured twists on the inside and trapping bubbles inside the glass. By the end of the class, you will have made your very own hand made marbles.

Marbles you make have to be annealed overnight, so you will have to come back to pick up your work, If you are unable to pick up your work please inform when booking and we can arrange postage of your items at cost.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/flameworked-marbles/>

Flameworked Beads

National Glass Centre

22 October / 10.00 – 12.30 / 13.30 – 16.00 / £40

Artist: Zoe Garner

Suitable for ages 16+

In this half-day class, you will use soft glass-coloured rods and focus on forming circular beads by pulling glass stringers and using these to apply patternation to the surface of the bead. Using smooth and textural designs, let your imagination take over and create your very own designer bead.

Beads you make have to be annealed overnight, so you will have to come back to pick up your work. Delivery options are available.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/make-your-own-flameworked-beads-2/>

Kiln Formed Glass

National Glass Centre

5-week course starting on 28 September or starting 9 November / 10.00 – 13.30 / 17.30 – 21.00 / £125

Artist: Midori Shinmura

Suitable for ages 16+

Students will be introduced to the basic skills used in Kiln Formed Glass techniques. Including Fusing, Slumping and Casting, through tutor demonstration and student-based experiment. Students will develop their own design and ideas into solid glass objects, including bowl and dish shapes.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/kiln-formed-glass/>

Christmas Decoration Fusing Workshop

National Glass Centre

8 October or 19 November / 10.00-17.00 / £70

Artist: Midori Shinmura

Suitable for ages 16+

Participants will learn to make your own Christmas decorations using Glass Fusing techniques.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/christmas-decoration-fusing-workshop/>

Fused Glass Snow Globes

National Glass Centre

14 October or 3 December / 10.00-13.00 / 13.30-16.30 / £70

Artist: Gill McGinley

Suitable for ages 16+

Get into the festive spirit and join us to create your own unique fused glass snow globe decoration! Great to display in a window, on a twig branch or Christmas tree or even better to give as a homemade gift! In this course, you will learn the art of glass fusing, hand cutting, and kiln fire techniques to showcase the texture and lustre of each piece.

Artist Gill McGinley will lead you through the process, step-by-step to create a stunning piece, each with their very own personality and unique design. Whether you're an absolute beginner or a glass genius, you are welcome to this relaxed, friendly workshop full of Christmas cheer.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/fused-glass-snow-globes/>

Chainmaille Bracelet Making

14 October, 29 October or 19 November / 14.00-16.00 / £30

Artist: Michael Davidson

Suitable for ages 16+

Through the ancient craft of chainmaille you will learn to interlock metal rings in the style of a traditional European weave to create an intricately designed bracelet.

You will be able to personalise your bracelet with yours or a loved ones initial as you unlock the fundamental skills of this timeless craft.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/chainmaille-bracelet-making/>

Ceramics – 6 week course

National Glass Centre

6-week course starting 1 November / 18.00-20.00 / £150

Artist: Michael Emmott

Suitable for ages 16+

An in depth introduction to ceramics where you will cover a range of different processes, including pottery on the throwing wheel, turning and attachments, decoration, handbuilding, finishing and glazing/kiln firing.

Participants will take home a range of different items by the end of the 6-week course.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/ceramics-6-week-course/>

Flameworked Christmas Decorations

National Glass Centre

11 November, 12 November, 9 December, 10 December, 16 December or 17 December / 10.00-16.00 / £80

Artist: Zoe Garner

Suitable for ages 16+

In this one day class you will make a number of Christmas Decorations including glass candles, icicles and stars all with their very own hooks so you can hang them proudly on the tree at Christmas.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/flameworked-christmas-decorations/>

Fused Glass Christmas Decorations

National Glass Centre

6 or 13 December / 18.00-21.00 / £40

Artist: Sue Woolhouse

Suitable for ages 16+

Get into the festive spirit and join us to create your own unique fused glass snow globe decoration! Great to display in a window, on a twig branch or Christmas tree or even better to give as a homemade gift! In this course, you will learn the art of glass fusing, hand cutting, and kiln fire techniques to showcase the texture and lustre of each piece.

Artist Gill McGinley will lead you through the process, step-by-step to create a stunning piece, each with their very own personality and unique design. Whether you're an absolute beginner or a glass genius, you are welcome to this relaxed, friendly workshop full of Christmas cheer.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/fused-glass-christmas-decorations/>

Stained Glass Christmas Tree Decoration

National Glass Centre

17 December / 10.00-16.00 / £60

Artist: Rita Griskonyte

Suitable for ages 16+

Try your hand at making Christmas decorations using glass. You will be able to assemble your bespoke suncatcher from a variety of coloured glass pieces. You will be also guided through the making process which includes glass cutting, copperfoiling, and soldering.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/stained-glass-christmas-tree-decoration/>

Other events

Christmas Craft Fair

National Glass Centre

Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 November / 10.00-17.00

Come along to our craft fair and celebrate the beautiful handmade crafts that the North East has to offer.

The fair will be packed with stalls from local and regional crafters. It's the perfect opportunity to buy a unique handmade Christmas gift or to treat yourself to something special!

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/christmas-craft-fair/>

Little Artists Drop In

National Glass Centre

Running every Monday of term time between 10.00 – 11.30 / FREE

Come along to our Little Artists Drop-ins every Monday during term time, where your under 5's can explore the world around them through imaginative play in self-led activities. Sessions are free, fun



and tailored to support early learning and exploration.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/little-artists-drop-in/>

Adventure Backpacks and Sensory Backpacks

National Glass Centre

Explore National Glass Centre with our Adventure backpacks which are packed full of fun investigatory activities including a set of activity cards.

We also have Sensory Backpacks for those with SEND.

Backpacks are free to use and are suitable for ages 4+

FREE Glass Making demonstrations

National Glass Centre

Experience the heat of our 1000 degree furnace and watch our expert glass making team craft stunning pieces before your eyes.

Flame Working: 11.00 and 15.45 (15 mins) (Excluding Tuesdays and Sundays)

Glass Blowing: 12.00, 13.30 and 15.00 (30 mins)

Occasional Glass Lathe: 13.00 (30 mins)

Please note:

– Flameworking demonstrations happen at Wearside Glass Sculptures in National Glass Centre Shop. Limited space.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/free-daily-glass-making-demonstrations/>