



## KIRRA GALLERIES

Federation Square (enter via Atrium)  
Cnr Swanston & Flinders Streets  
Melbourne, Victoria, 3000  
AUSTRALIA

Phone: +613 9639 6388  
Fax: +613 9639 8522  
E-mail: [gallery@kirra.com](mailto:gallery@kirra.com)  
[www.kirragalleries.com](http://www.kirragalleries.com)

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 10.00am - 6.00pm





**Peter Kolliner OAM**  
**Gallery Director**

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual International SOFA (Sculpture Objects & Functional Art) exhibition will take place at Chicago's historic Navy Pier from Thursday 3 November to Sunday 6 November 2011. Kirra Galleries will exhibit the work of twelve Australian Glass Artists showcasing a variety of techniques.

For eight years, Kirra Galleries, located in Federation Square in Melbourne, through its policy of promoting Australian Contemporary Glass Artists internationally, has taken the work of some forty artists to the renowned SOFA exhibition with the support of the Australian Government through Austrade and the Australia Council.

Kirra Galleries attendance at SOFA Chicago has resulted in many of our emerging artists gaining recognition from international collectors and galleries. Their works are now included in many of the most prestigious private and public collections in the USA. Through this exposure they have also gained international representation allowing them to make a full-time commitment to their art.

This year we will be represented by our Gallery Manager and Curator, Suzanne Brett and the Gallery's Administration Manager, Vicki Winter.

The success of Kirra Galleries' exhibition at SOFA is supporting the development of international markets and recognition for Australian artists, and providing new and emerging glass artists the opportunity to gain international exposure.

## About SOFA

**SOFA CHICAGO** is the City's longest continually running art fair, and this year will feature 80 art galleries and dealers from 10 countries.

The Art Fair Company announced it will produce two art fairs under one roof at Chicago's historic Navy Pier, Thursday 3 November – Sunday 6 November 2011. The Intuit Show of Folk and Outsider Art will share center stage in Festival Hall with Chicago's much-anticipated art fair mainstay, the 18th Annual International Sculpture Objects & Functional Art Fair: SOFA CHICAGO 2011.



**Kirra Galleries at SOFA 2010**

# Kirra **Galleries**

www.kirragalleries.com

## 2011 SOFA (Sculpture Objects & Functional Art) Chicago

**Australian Glass Artists represented  
by Kirra Galleries at SOFA Chicago 2011**



**Kirra Galleries**  
LEADERS IN THE AUSTRALIAN  
CONTEMPORARY ART GLASS MOVEMENT

**PARTICIPATING ARTISTS**  
George **ASLANIS**  
Tevita **HAVEA**  
Mikyong **JUNG**  
Laurel **KOHUT**  
Simon **MABERLEY**  
Ruth **OLIPHANT**  
Tim **SHAW**  
Crystal **STUBBS**  
Emma **VARGA**  
Bethany **WHEELER**  
Robert **WYNNE**  
Takemura **YUSUKE**

**SOFA**  
CHICAGO  
3-6 NOVEMBER, 2011

Alomo by Tevita Havea, 2011.  
Glass, wood, twine.  
Dimension: H 69cm x W 53cm x D 25cm

[www.sofaexpo.com](http://www.sofaexpo.com)



## George Aslanis

### Biography

George Aslanis has been an artist and involved in art education all his adult life. He is the Coordinator of the Glass and Ceramic Studio in the Faculty of Art and Design, Department of Fine Arts, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. He has taught many Australian contemporary glass artists throughout his academic career.

### Artist Statement

My practice involves a dialogue that describes 'state of being'. Symbol and metaphor are important motifs in my work. Drawing from cultures past and present I combine various elements to create visually complex cast glass sculptures. These objects are read from two sides, a sculpted textured surface and an open view into the interior space of the glass. The question of what exists beneath the surface, the interior life often unseen is a constant aspect of my work.



*Janus 2* by George Aslanis

## Tevita Havea

### Artist Statement

"Havea's work is a lyrical interweave of Polynesian mythology, custom and creation stories; stories about regeneration and the symbiotic relationship between the feminine and masculine". M Bottari

### Biography

Since graduating from ANU (Australian National University - Canberra) in 2005 Tevita has gained recognition in both Australia and the USA for his innovative work influenced by the cultural environment of his native Tonga in the Solomon Islands. In 2007 a piece of his work was purchased by The Corning Museum of Glass and in 2009 he received The New Talent Award from Urban Glass New York and was a finalist in The Ranamok Glass Prize, a travelling exhibition of Australian and New Zealand glass artists.



*Momo* by Tevita Havea

## Mikyong Jung

### Artist Statement

My works reflect my experiences of living abroad, from different landscapes to alternative cultures, and the way in which these experiences have affected me. Consequently, I consider the themes of diaspora and communication both relevant and poignant.

My art practice encompasses many different cultures, both Eastern and Western, and is inspired by the events, landscapes and encounters as seen through the eyes of a stranger, and on occasion an outsider.

I believe that art has the ability to convey nuances that are often lost in translation when communicated linguistically, so my works are ideas that have been translated into a visual language that the viewer can empathise with.



*View from Above* by Mikyong Jung

## Laurel Kohut

### Artist Statement - Bonds of Love

The allure of certain objects frequently overshadows the object itself. As a result of their symbolic nature and layers of personal meaning, they create a life and language of their own. The ring is a catalyst for many evocative and compelling emotions.

### Biography

Laurel is currently completing her Master of Fine Arts at Monash University in Melbourne. She has been a full-time practicing glass artist since 2005 and has participated in a number of group exhibitions.

Her work has been selected for the Ranamok Glass Prize in 2011, 2010 and 2004, and in 2006 she was shortlisted for the prestigious Tom Malone Prize.



*Bonds of Love (Gold)* by Laurel Kohut



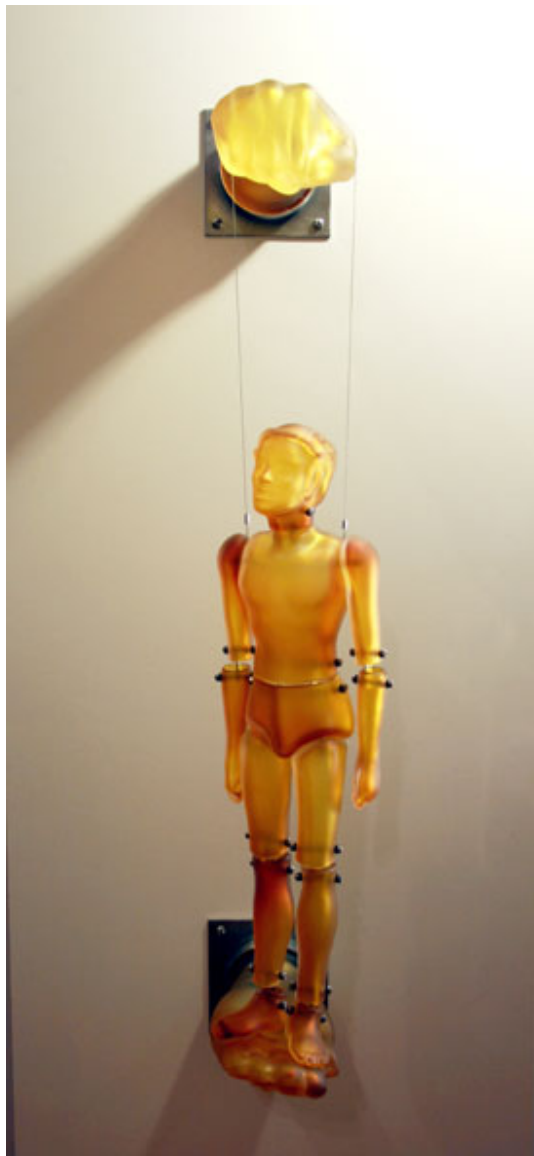
## Simon Maberley

### Artist Statement

The figurative sculptures are a continuation of a series that I have been developing over a number of years. The figures themselves imply notions of identity, while the supporting and suspending hands reference elements that play a role in the creation of the individual. I have more recently been interested in the psychology of colour, reflection and transmission of light and the effects on the relationship between viewer and artwork.

### Biography

Simon completed his Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours) at Sydney College of the Arts and received the outstanding graduate award. He completed his Master of Fine Arts at Ohio State University and in 2005 Simon was a visiting scholar at Ohio State University and an Artist in Residence for Ken Rinaldo at Pilchuck Glass School.



*Above and below gold 2011 by Simon Maberley*

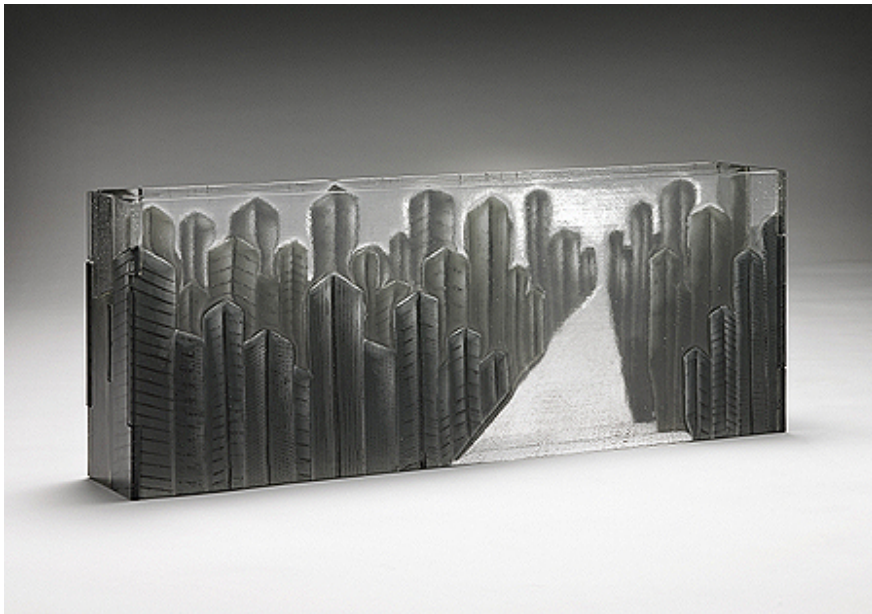
## Ruth Oliphant

### Artist Statement

I am trying to recreate an essential aspect of the modern city based on my experiences and memories. I am exploring the use of layers, bringing them together to create more complex landscapes. Through this method I aim to recreate the layered atmospheres that attract me to the city environment.

By removing any obvious evidence of human activity the streets take on an empty, dream like quality.

In this body of work I look at the city through its patterns, colours and shapes. I use these three elements to explore the depth, space and mood of the inner city. These range from literal recognisable streetscapes to more abstracted captured



*The Way Out* by Ruth Oliphant

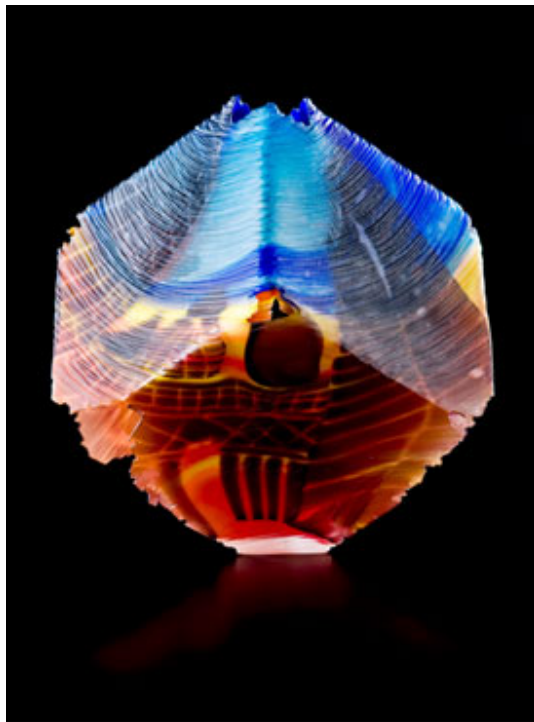
## Tim Shaw

### Artist Statement

This year at SOFA Chicago, Tim Shaw debuts two new forms, his radical cubes and his interactive spheres. These significant additions to his 'Slash & Cut' series combine dynamic surface carving with his bold palate of colour, and concern themselves with landscape and the environment.

Tim's cubes incorporate naïve figurative elements of urban environments that remind us of the fragility of human endeavour. In contrast, his spheres pertain to natural equilibrium and harmony, reflecting worlds both real and imagined.

The fluidity of glass is balanced by the geometry of form in Tim's latest works of art.



*Dubai I* by Tim Shaw

## Crystal Stubbs

### Artist Statement

Within my work I have focused on creating stylized figurative pieces that are aesthetically coherent. Through the use of two different techniques 'Character series' explores the relationship between the human figure and structural shapes.

I enjoy the challenge of combining the immediate hot glass process with the more time consuming casting process.

I sculpt fluid human forms, and incorporate lineal, structural objects to create an interesting contrast, yet aesthetically balanced piece.



*Contemplation* by Crystal Stubbs

## Emma Varga

### Artist Statement

I have an enduring focus on the small details of colour, pattern and repetition that I continue to use in my work, abstracting nature and turning the elements into pattern, much as nature does. These details are apparent in my work, as the nature of the construction of my glass objects is dependent on thousands of small segments of glass, stacked and repeated over and over again, then fused together to create a unified and solid whole resembling the parts of flora that so inspire me. This sense of repetition of pattern is a key element in the glass technique that I use and reflects the enormous amount of foliage that a hedge, or bush, or underwater seaweed has.

The source of inspiration shifted recently toward explorations of white and blue as seen in current works resulting in more abstracted minimalist objects. By singling out the details, I'd like to suggest to the viewer to focus on the colours, light and pattern.



*Under Water White* by Emma Varga



## Bethany Wheeler

### Artist Statement

My work explores the interaction of 'actants' engaged with space. Sheets of coloured glass are fused together and cut, then fused and cut and so on. These segments are then assembled into cross-sections and fused together before being slumped. These visually complex structures are an interrelated network of the original substance. The multiplicity is formed from the single and visa versa. This process is a network of actions, and this network extends into the environment within which the 'actants' (objects) engage.

### Biography

Bethany completed her Master of Fine Art-Glass in 2003 and she works as a Sessional Lecturer in the Glass Studio, Department of Fine Art, Monash University, Melbourne. Her work is in the National Art Glass Collection at the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery and can be found in private collections world wide.



*Single Actant* by Bethany Wheeler

## Robert Wynne

### Artist Statement

My work portrays contrasting impulses within. I am inspired by a broad range of influences that evoke complex emotions reflected in a diverse body of work which I developed with my partner Yuri.

However there are common threads that run through my work. I love the glow of light through frosted glass which I highlight with surface decoration creating strong visual statements.

The current body of work pushes on two fronts, more refined and greater freedom.



*Woven Light* by Robert Wynne

## Takemura Yusuke

### Artist Statement

Transparent glass, blown into shape of a vessel is the best canvas to create my desired complicated and mysterious objects. By cutting holes into a thin surface of glass forms, which is a challenging process I aim to create a fragile structure, a sculptural object. After laborious fine grinding and polishing all the edges of holes, the boundaries between void and transparent surface blurs and it creates an optical illusion.

### Biography

Takemura completed his Master of Art at the Sydney College of the Arts in Sydney, Australia in 2009. At the recent biennial conference of the Association of Australian Glass Artists he was the recipient of an award (Vicki Torr Prize) judged by his peers and in 2010 his work was selected for the Ranamok Glass Prize, a prestigious touring exhibition featuring work from Australian and New Zealand Glass Artists.



*History by Takemura Yusuke*

## Current Exhibition

**13 October 2011 to 13 November 2011**

### **"MM 2011" Monash in Motion**

Kirra Galleries is hosting the fifth Monash Momentum exhibition. The focus this year is on "Monash in Motion" as we celebrate thirty-one years of glass making at Monash University's Department of Fine Arts Glass Studio which opened in 1980.

This exciting exhibition will examine the diversity, artistry and glass making techniques of seventeen artists who graduated from Monash.

#### **Participating Artists:**

Ebony Addinsall, Emma Borland, Dan Bowran, Samantha Cuffe, Kirstin Finlayson, Tegan Hamilton, Michelle Kaucic, Brent King, Jennifer Ashley King, Lisa Krivitsky, Emma Lashmar, Ruth McCallum-Howell, Emily McIntosh, Mariella McKinley, Nadia Mercuri, Jasmine Targett and Suzannah Terauds.

## Forthcoming Exhibitions

**3 November 2011 to 6 November 2011**

### **"SOFA Chicago 2011"**

Kirra Galleries will be exhibiting at SOFA Chicago 2011.

#### **Participating Artists:**

George Aslanis, Tevita Havea, Mikyoung Jung, Laurel Kohut, Simon Maberley, Ruth Oliphant, Tim Shaw, Crystal Stubbs, Emma Varga, Bethany Wheeler, Robert Wynne and Takemura Yusuke.

**17 November 2011 to 11 December 2011**

### **"Segue"**

#### **Participating Artists:**

Dr Gerry King, Catherine Aldrete-Morris, Keith Rowe, Emma Varga

## KIRRA GALLERIES

Federation Square (enter via Atrium)  
Cnr Swanston & Flinders Streets  
Melbourne. Victoria, 3000

Phone: +613 9639 6388

Fax: +613 9639 8522

Email: [gallery@kirra.com](mailto:gallery@kirra.com)

[www.kirragalleries.com](http://www.kirragalleries.com)

Opening hours: Mon-Sunday 10.00am -6.00pm