

THE Glass Bead

A Quarterly Publication of the
International Society of Glass Beadmakers
Vol XVI | Issue 1 | Winter 09



FEATURE ARTICLE **08**
The Three Most Important
Rules of Business
Denny Durbin

PULL OUT 2009 CALENDAR **24**
Important Dates
for Glass Beadmakers

10 ON THE COVER
CLEARLY, TRANSPARENCY
HAS IMPRESSIVE DEPTH

ARTIST'S SPOTLIGHT
Katherine Wadsworth



in every issue

- 4 Notes from the Editors**
- 10 Artist's Spotlight**
Katherine Wadsworth
Marcy Lamberson
- 16 Notes from the Bench**
Deanna Griffin Dove
- 18 Critiques & Collections**
Beads for the Holidays
Jim Kervin
- 28 Books and Publishing**
*Profiting by Design:
A Jewelry Maker's Guide
to Business Success*
Reviewed by Susan Brimo-Cox
- 30 Studio Safety**
Part Four:
Hazardous Substances
and Alphabet Soup
Vince Henley
- 32 Regional Tutorials**
Canada: Cheryl Brown, Alberta
Midwest: Louis Little, Ohio
- 46 Eye Candy**
The Member Showcase
Cindy McEwen

features

- 8 Feature Article**
The Three Most Important
Rules of Business
Denny Durbin
- 22 Color...Forecasts and Fascination**
Diana Dugina Riebling
- 24 2009 ISGB Calendar**
Important Dates for
Glass Beadmakers
- 26 Focus on Business**
A Lesson in Strategy:
Lead With Vision
Kim Marcille

ON THE COVER: Katherine Wadsworth, *Amber Tree Bead* –
Above left: Katherine Wadsworth, *Bird of Paradise Bead* – middle: Louise Little's *Desert Bloom Bead* – right: Cheryl Brown's "Hole Bead"

THE GLASS BEAD (USPS 022-885) is published quarterly by the International Society of Glass Beadmakers,
P.O. Box 82226, Columbus, OH 43202. Periodicals postage paid at Columbus, OH, and additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Glass Bead, P.O. Box 82226, Columbus, OH 43202.

artist's spotlight

by Marcy Lamberson



Photos by Brad Moon, unless otherwise noted.

KATHERINE NATALIA WADSWORTH

CLEARLY, TRANSPARENCY HAS IMPRESSIVE DEPTHS

Katherine Natalia Wadsworth's smooth and elegantly silhouetted beads utilize stylized organic images like flowers, plants and animals. They appear to be influenced by Art Nouveau with its simple lines and clear curves. Asian art and textiles, such as Japanese and Chinese silks, ceramics and woodcarvings, also affect her style.



Katherine says she's captivated with transparent glass, and has been from the beginning of her glass-melting career. "I just love being able to see through the beads, and having layers of color and depths you can see into." Katherine enjoys mixing her own colors and dilutions so she has unique colors to work with.

She remarks that she's also a huge fan of etching. "I started working with acid etching as a way to break up all the sparkle and shine in all that transparent glass. I do love the sheer sparkle of transparent glass, but even I get tired eyes when I see too much of it. I imagine it's like visiting Liberace—cool, sparkly, but after a while just too much," Katherine explains.



She feels that etching softens the surface, without completely losing that sense of depth when you look at the glass, and it gives glass a warm and friendly glow. By selectively etching only parts of beads by using stencils or painted resists, Katherine can highlight raised-glass designs or create her own images on the surface of her beads.

Katherine's honeycomb beads also show her love of transparency, in this case totally see-through beads. Her original idea was to make glass honeycombs to go with etched honeybee beads. She was looking for ways to enclose open air in a glass structure. The result was these beads made by folding and joining multiple disk beads together. These open, airy beads are very challenging, but Katherine says she's pushing herself to explore new shapes.

Although much of Katherine's inspiration comes from history, art history, biology texts and photography books, her beads seldom have any direct resemblance to the inspiration. "For example, my Bird of Paradise beads were inspired by a Hawaiian-style dress covered with hibiscus flowers. It was the line of the wrapped dress, and the dramatic contrast of oranges and purples, that made me think of the Bird of Paradise. Maybe one day I'll see a Bird of Paradise and be inspired to make hibiscus beads," she jokes.



Besides providing inspiration, books also help recharge her creative spark. Added to that, Katherine loves to talk to other glass melting people and artists who work in other media. "I found out that I can get the same 'recharge' from talking with people who are hooked on colored pencils or wrought iron, too. That was a wonderful discovery," she adds.



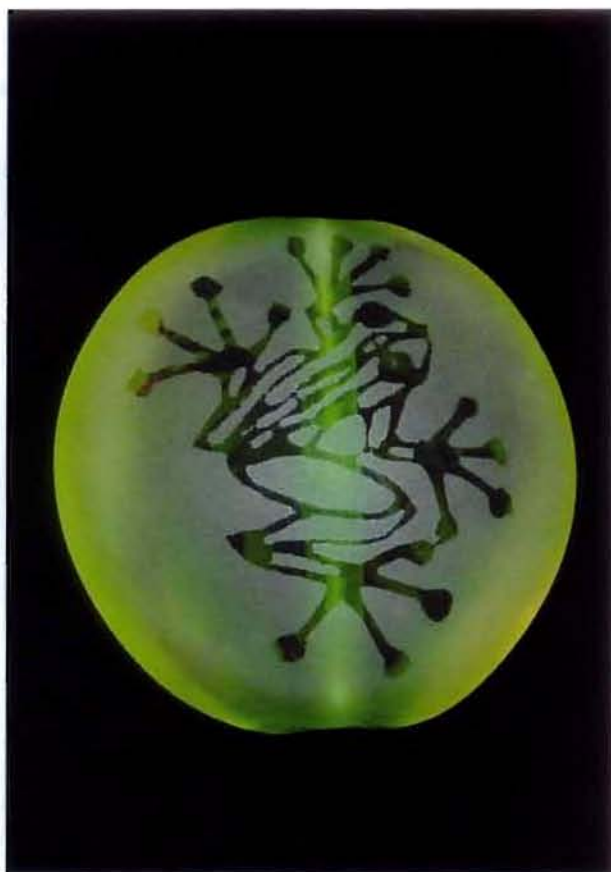


Photo by Jerry Anthony Photography.

Based in the bayou country of South Louisiana, Katherine says she's really a Californian in exile there. She also is a developmental psychologist, and works as an editor in academic publishing. Her partner is a biologist and photographer, and they take many exotic field-trips together to explore the natural world.

"I've recently started teaching. I've been teaching etching techniques at the Bead & Button Show for two years now, and taught a lampwork course this fall in California at the Arroyo Road Bead Collective in Forest Knolls, which focused on controlling temperamental transparents and creating beads with etched designs in mind."

Having taken a variety of classes in multiple media, Katherine has been influenced in different ways.

"I think the thing that the best of them taught me was to remember to struggle with what you want to create. That is, think for myself about what I want to make and why, and keep pushing myself beyond my current skills to pursue goals that are beyond me now."



She adds, "It's helpful to have really gifted artists remind me not to get hung up on getting everything technically perfect, especially the first time. The struggle to get there is what strengthens you and keeps the work from becoming just work."

Katherine sells at a few shows each year, including the Bead&Button Show and the ISGB Gathering, and also sells some work at Arts Afire in Alexandria, Virginia, and at a local gallery in Lafayette, Louisiana, called Visions Art Gallery. She also uses her Web site, www.NataliaDesigns.com for sales and to list her shows. ■

