

Dear Collector Spring 2003

As the first buds of spring began to show, our thoughts quickly turned to creating new designs, which have gradually bloomed over the last couple of months.



Silver cameo Tulip vase with 9 layers of colour

Carved vases and bowls adorned with clematis, lilies, roses, fuchsia and tulip and not forgetting fish, birds, dancing maidens and landscapes are all included in our 2003 cameo, re heat cameo and gräal limited editions.



Silver cameo Iris bowl



**OUR OPEN DAY WILL
TAKE PLACE ON
SATURDAY 5TH JULY.
IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND
PLEASE CALL US NOW TO
RESERVE YOUR PLACE
TO AVOID
DISAPPOINTMENT
DETAILS ARE ATTACHED
01952 246381.**

NEW CAMEO

On some of our designs we are now applying up to 9 layers of enamel colour that Jonathan skillfully carves through to create the delicate shades of colour. Although these pieces



Silver cameo Landscape vase

are very time consuming to carve I think you will agree that they are quite stunning.

The 'landscape' vase is another new technique that we have developed. Here, we have produced the cameo blank by combining studio and cameo techniques by applying core colour, 24ct gold leaf, straps and trails, to create the hills, fields and horizon. The piece is then gilded in sterling silver and when cold, the trees and 'scene' are carved. The finished piece is very three dimensional with the fields and horizon in the background and the trees and foliage in the foreground.

This is the very first design of a new technique, which promises to have a very long future!



Golden Graal Dianthus goblet

NEW GRAAL

The two new gräal limited editions 'fuchsia' and 'Dianthus' are using our new technique which involves the application of opaque enamel, which when carved and re heated creates a soft 'halo' around the design. Once again, the use of colour with the gold leaf creates a stunning and delicate effect.

‘THE PORTLAND VASE’

I am sure that many of you are aware that the ‘Portland Vase’ is probably the most famous piece of cameo ever produced in the history of decorative



glass. The vase was discovered in Rome in the 16th century and later inspired the revival of the cameo technique. Around 1783 Josiah Wedgwood produced the Jasper Ware replicas from the original vase and in 1810 it was displayed in the British Museum, but sadly, in 1845 the vase was smashed into 189 pieces. Over the years there had been several unsuccessful attempts to reproduce the vase until in 1873 when Philip Pargeter, owner of the Red House Glass Works felt that his glassmakers had the skill to produce the blank and it was his cousin John Northwood who carved the vase over three years, using techniques which had developed in Stourbridge during the 1840’s. It was Northwood’s vase that finally revived the cameo technique and inspired artists like Emile Gallé and George Woodall to produce some of the most exquisite cameo carvings of all time.

OUR TRIBUTE

After being approached by Wedgwood and the British

Museum to produce a piece inspired by ‘The Portland Vase’, after many long months of experimenting and prototyping, we are now delighted to show you the results. The painstaking process of re drawing the intricate figures from the Northwood vase took Jonathan and I many long hours and when we were



Cameo Portland medium bowl

finally happy with the artwork each individual figure needed to be carved to fit perfectly around each piece. Once Jonathan begins to carve there is no turning back! The intricate detail, concentration and patience required to carve these pieces even surprised Jonathan and he readily admits this is the greatest challenge yet. It is not our intention or wish to reproduce the ‘Portland vase’ or any other early cameo using the same ancient carving techniques but we have produced what we feel is a very successful interpretation using a combination of ancient and modern techniques.

We must stress that these two pieces pictured are the very first trials to be completed and although they can be ordered



Cameo Portland amphora

(only through the collectors’ club) due to the enormous complexity of production, each piece will be very individual and unique and will be signed as ‘one off’. We have pictured the medium bowl and small vase. A larger bowl and vase can also be requested. The two original trials along with our other new limited editions can be seen at our Coalport showroom. This is our most challenging, exciting and most pivotal body of work to date and will form the core of exhibitions to be held at the Victoria & Albert Museum, The British Museum and The National Gallery later in the year and we hope that you will enjoy seeing this work progress into the future. We have tried to price these pieces as realistically as possible and we very much want our collectors’ to own one, but we cannot underestimate or deny that the amount of work involved in their production is enormous and we know that these pieces will be appreciated by you. If you would like to discuss these designs in more detail please do not hesitate to contact us.

NEW STUDIO DESIGN

Not wishing to leave out our very popular studio collections, we have created 'Water Lily'. A very lovely feminine and delicate design incorporating millifleur, 24ct gold and available in pearl white, rose and aquamarine with a subtle iridised surface.

OPEN DAY

The date for our Open Day is Saturday 5th July and once again promises to be a most enjoyable occasion. Starting at



New Water Lily with 22ct gold leaf

11am we will have the usual limited editions, trials and one off pieces available to purchase. Jonathan will be updating you on our new techniques and designs and in keeping with our new designs we are very pleased to welcome our guest speaker Christopher Woodall Perry, the very knowledgeable great great grandson of one of the most famous cameo carvers in the history of cameo glass, George Woodall. Chris will be taking you through the Woodall's life history and showing you breathtaking examples of his work, followed by a book signing of his amazing publication 'The cameo Glass of Thomas and George Woodall'. In addition

we will have glassmaking demonstrations, lunch, the prize giving and the auction, which will include stunning trials, 'one off' pieces and new designs and techniques! As always demand for places will be high and due to fire regulations we are limited to numbers' so if you wish to join us please contact us ASAP. **But please can I make a special plea-if you do reserve spaces and then find that you are unable to attend please let us know to allow others to take your place. Thank you.**

GLASS COLLECTORS' FAIR Sunday 11th May 2003.

Motorcycle Museum NEC Don't forget another date for your diaries. We will be exhibiting a good selection of trials, 'one offs' and our new 2003 limited edition cameo and gräal pieces at the specialist glass fair.



Silver cameo tulip amphora

COLLECTORS' SAVING SCHEME

Just a reminder to all of our new members' that we offer the facility for you to make small payments at intervals of your choice to save for your

purchases. In its third year now, this system has proved very popular and successful and if you require any further details or would like to set up a savings plan please do not hesitate to contact me.

Well I think that is probably enough to digest for now so I will leave you to study our new



Philip Duplock one of our very keen collectors' - choosing a 'Poppy & Astor' trial to add to his collection.

designs and as usual if you wish to order a piece we request just a £25 deposit per item to secure a limited edition. We do not require a deposit for the studio collections.

The next newsletter will include updates on our news and events, the new members' piece will be launched and further details of the 'open day' will be included, but please remember to contact us now if you wish to attend this very enjoyable, fun and memorable collectors' 'get together'.

For now, best wishes and happy collecting,

Alison & Jonathan