# Æsa Björk b. Reykjavík Iceland

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# Education

- 1995-97 MDes Degree, Edinburgh College of Art, Glass Department.
- 1994 The Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design, Prague (Vysoka skola umeleckoprumyslova v Praze)
- Glass studio headed by professor Vladimír Kopecky.
- 1991-95 1st Class BA Honours Degree, Edinburgh College of Art, Glass Department

# Solo exhibitions

- 2018 Shield II, S12 Galleri og Verksted in collaboration with Tinna Thorsteinsdóttir
- 2014 SÝN, S12 Galleri og Verksted
- 2013 Gage/Gaze, with Hiromi Takizawa, Fosdick-Nelson Gallery, Alfred, NY
- 2010 Impressions, S12 Galleri og Verksted
- 2004 no\_on KMR, Kunstnersenteret Møre og Romsdal
- 2004 02.03.04. Galleri FORMAT, Bergen
- 2003 Logen Teater, Bergen
- 2003 ...cover2... Galleri FORMAT, Oslo
- 2002 ...cover... Lepramuseet- St. Jørgens hospital, Bergen
- 2002 3 på rappen, galleri se, Bergen
- 1998 Last d'Vision, Visningsrommet Stiftelsen Kulturhuset USF, Bergen.

# Selected group exhibitions

- 2018 Toyama International Glass Exhibition Toyama Glass Museum, Japan
- 2018 Nový Bor 13th International Glass Sympozium (IGS 2018) Czech Republic
- 2018 HANDMADE Scandinavian Glass Starting All Over, Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Danmark
- 2017 HANDMADE Scandinavian Glass Starting All Over, The Glass Factory, Boda Glasbruk, Sweden
- 2017 Stress Field, 4th Documentary Exhibition of Fine Arts, Hubei Museum of Art, Fine Arts Literature Art Center, China
- 2016 European Glass Context Bornholm Art Museum EGC2016- Curated
- 2016 European Glass Festival in Wroclaw, Main Exhibit, travelling to Lodz, Legnica, & Krakow.
- 2016 Transitions, ECA Alumni Glass Exhibition, Edinburgh College of Art, UK
- 2016 LUXUS, Glass Art Society Conference, Corning NY, USA
- 2015 Kunsthåndverk 2015 / Craft 2015, National Museum, Oslo
- 2014 Fractured Lives / Fragile Existences, NOoSphere Arts NYC
- 2014 The Coburg Prize for Contemporary Glass, Coburg, Germany
- 2013-14 Nordic Contemporary Glass, The Glass Factory Boda Glassbruk, Sweden, Pera Museum, Istanbul Turkey
- 2013 Exploding Boundaries: Faculty and Staff Exploration in Drawing, Fosdick-Nelson Gallery, Alfred, NY
- 2011 GLASS 2011, Gjøvik Kunstforening
- 2010 Neonjul, S12 Galleri og Verksted
- 2009 Vevring anniversary exhibition, Vevring
- 2008 Glass exhibition Nøstetangen Museum Hokksund
- 2007 Vevringutstillingen, Vevring
- 2006 Transparent Realisme, Nordnorsk kunstnersenter, Svolvær
- 2005 Galleri Ramsalt. Lindesnes Kystkultursenter
- 2005 1st International Triennial of Silicate Arts, Kecskemét, Hungary
- 2003 Artists multiples in Showcase, Hordaland Kunstsenter
- 2002 Young and Hot, Showcase of emerging European glass artists as part of the GAS (Glass Art Society)
- Conference 29. 05 09.06, Societeit Baby, Amsterdam.
- 2001 HKS, Bergen. Ateliérene I C.Sundtsgt. 55, Group exhibition of the artists working at C.Sundtsgt. 55 in Bergen
- 2000 Clearly Brilliant, A Decade of Pilchuck Glass School's Emerging Artists in Residence
- 07.10.00- 01.01.01, Tacoma Art Museum, WA, USA (Catalogue ISBN: 924335-22-X)
- 2000 Street Level, An international art project incorporating the public space along Nygårdsgaten in Bergen/ Norway (www.streetlevel.de)
- 2000 Pilchuck Emerging Artists in Residence1999, Riley Hawk Gallery Kirkland/Seattle WA, USA
- 1999-01 Glokal, IKM Grønland Kulturstasjon, Oslo 20.8'99-30.3'00 (Catalogue ISBN 82 91647-12-7)

Touring with Riksutstillinger in Norway Gol Kunstforening / Eiker Kunstforening, / Eidsberg Kunstforening, / Alstahaug Kunstforening, / Sunnfjord Kunstfag, Førdehuset, / Nordischer Klang 2001 Univ. Greifswald (Germany) / Ullensaker Kunstforening / Alta Kunstforening / Sandnes Kunstforening 23.09.01-21.10.01

- 1998-00 EMBODY, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland 19.6 15.8 '99 / ArtSway, Hampshire 18.9 7.10 '99 /
- Turnpike Gallery, Leigh 11.12 '99 22.1 2000 (Catalogue ISBN 0-905108-37-X) Available through Artsbooks International
- 1998 GLASS, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh (Catalogue ISBN 1 872291 77 5)
- 1997 25th anniversary exhibition, MHR The Association of Reykjavík Sculptors.
- 1995 Glass in a different context, **Glasgow Central Station**, in collaboration with the Art Exposure Gallery.
- 1995 The Scottish Art Students' Mixed Media Exhibition, MacRoberts Art Centre, Stirling.
- 1994 **Zurseit 94**, Kultur(en) Festival, Waizenkirchen, Austria. (with students of Kopecky)
- 1994 Palmovka Synagogue, students of Vladimír Kopecky's Glass studio, Prague.

## Public Art (selection)

- 2011 Hellinga barnehage / kindergarten (Kristiansand)
- 2009 Gjøa platform Statoil Hydro (North Sea)
- 2008 Lindebøskauen skole, Flekkerøy (Major commission) (Kristiansand)
- 2005 Stord sjukehus /psychiatric ward (Stord)
- 2004 Husnes bu og rehabeliteringssenter (Stord)

## **Comissions / Competitions**

- One of four chosen for a closed competition at HIST, Trondheim. 2015
- 2010 2nd place in a sculpture competition for an outdoor glass sculpture in Gjøvik, Norway
- 2009 Glass sculpture depicting the digestive system for Vilvite, Vitensenteret i Bergen (Bergen Science museum)
- 2008 Scenografi for Welcome to Paradise - A Requiem in Kanonhallen Oslo
- Sculptural work in glass representing pollen at the Natural History Museum in Bergen 2008

#### Residencies

- Artist in Residence, Corning Museum of Glass, NY, U.S.A. 2006
- 1999 Emerging Artist in Residence, Pilchuck Glass School, WA, U.S.A.

### Selected work experience

- Chair of the board, Hordaland Kunstsenter, Bergen 2017-18
- 2016 Pilchuck Glass School, Instructor session 4. Try again ... Fail better.
- 2015-Artistic advisor S12 Gallery and Workshop, Bergen
- 2015-16 Member of the board Hordaland Kunstsenter, Bergen.
- 2011-14 Visiting Artist / Faculty/Professor at NYSCC - Alfred University, School of Art and Design, Sculpture Dimensional Studies
- Interim Head of Glass at NYSCC Alfred University, 1 semester 2012
- 2010 Summer course teacher (casting and fusing) at S12 Gallery og Verksted
- 2005-Co-Founder and artistic advisor of S12 Gallery og Verksted, manager (2007-2011)
- 2005 Teaching assistant for Judith Conway, Corning Museum of Glass, NY, U.S.A.
- 2003/2004 Summer course teacher (glass casting) as well as translatior/assistant for amongst others Roger Thomas (fusing pictures in glass) and Ryan Higgins (lamp working) at Glass Forum, Averøy, Norway
- 2003-2005 Innkjøpskomiteen for samtidskunst Norsk Kulturråd, member of a committee assigned by the Norwegian Arts Council to buy modern art & craft Teaching Assistant for Ann Robinson, session 4 Pilchuck Glass School, U.S.A. 2000

### Self presentations, (lectures, critiques)

Presentation - HANDMADE - Scandinavian Glass Starting All Over, Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Danmark 2018 Presentation - S12 Galleri og Verksted, Bergen in connection to the exhibition Shield II 2018 2016 European Glass Festival, Wroclaw 2016 Pilchuck Glass School, U.S.A. Visiting Critique, Rochester Institute of Technology, NY, U.S.A. 2012 Pecha-Kucha presentation, Toledo, OH, U.S.A. 2012 2012 Virginia Commonwealth University, VA, U.S.A. 2011 Alfred University, NY, U.S.A. S12 Galleri og Verksted (as part of the summer course program) 2010 2006 Nordnorsk Kunstnersenter, Svolvær 2006 Alfred University, NY, U.S.A 2006 Corning Museum of Glass, NY, U.S.A. KMR Kunstnersenteret Møre og Romsdal at the exhibition no\_on Bergen Arkitekt Skole / Bergen School of Architecture, Norway 2004 2003 2003 Glass Forum, Averøy, Norway Lepramuseet i Bergen at the exhibition ... cover..., Norway 2002 2000/1999/1997 Pilchuck Glass School, USA Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, USA (as part of the Pilchuck EAIR program) 1999 1997/1994 Edinburgh College of Art, UK 1994 The Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design, Prague

#### Courses

- 2015 Pilchuck Glass School, "Digital Fab Glass Lab" Fred Metz & Team
- BEK, Bergen Center for Electronic Arts, beginners Arduino course 2014
- 2009 Pilchuck Glass School, A body of glass, Mark Zirpel and Benjamin Wright
- 2006 Pilchuck Glass School, "Architectural and Sculptural Kiln-formed glass" Warren Langley
- Pilchuck Glass School, "Permanent Image on Glass" Brian Boldon & Mark Zirpel 2005
- 2004
- Atelier Nord, Oslo, Working with Flash (web program) Pilchuck Glass School, *'Neon Road Test'* Deborah Dohne and Fred Tschida 2001
- 1998 Mediaverkstedet i Bergen, (video techniques)
- 1997 Pilchuck Glass School, 'Casting Devices for Sculpture' Gene Koss

## Selected Scholarships, Grants & Awards

- 2018 City of Bergen, Rask Respons travel grant for the Toyama International Glass Exhibition at Toyama Glass Art Museum, Japan
- Pilchuck Glass School Full scholarship to attend Digital Fab Lab. 2015
- Bergen Kommune and NK travel grant to attend course at Pilchuck Glass School. 2015
- 2015-19 5 year artists working grant from the Norwegian Ministry of Culture (Statens arbeidsstipend for kunstnere 5 år)
- 2014 Bergen Kommune, grant to participate in the exhibition Fractured Lives / Fragile Existences at NOoSphere Arts NYC, USA
- 2014
- Materials Grant from Statens Kunstnerstipend Norway Transport Grant from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NK for shipping artwork to the Coburg Prize for Contemporary Glass. 2014
- 2013 Bergen Kommune, travel grant to Venice
- 2013 Transport Grant from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NK for the Exhibition Gage Gaze at the Fosdick Nelson Gallery
- 2010 Materials grant (Material stipend, Statens Kunstnerstipend)
- 2009 Bergen Kommune, travel grant to Pilchuck
- Pilchuck Glass School, half scholarship to attend Mark Zirpels and Ben Wrights class 2009
- 2007-09 3 year artists working grant from the Norwegian Ministry of Culture (Statens Arbeidsstipend for kunstnere 3 år)

- 2006 Artist in Residence, full coverage of fees and travel expenses Corning Museum of Glass
- 2006 Artist grant from Sparebanken Vest, Bergen,
- 2006 Nominated for the Corning award after Warren Langleys class at the Pilchuck Glass School
- 2005 Pilchuck Glass School Scholarship to attend Mark Zirpels and Brian Boldons class
- 2005 Grant from Billedkunstnernes Vederlagsfond
- 2004 Project grant from the City of Bergen
- 2004 Statens Kunstnerstipend Material stipend
- 2003 Norsk Kulturråd (Utstillingsstipend) Exhibition grant for the exhibition no\_on at KMR
- 2003 Project grant from the City of Bergen.
- 2002 1 year young artists working grant from the Norwegian Ministry of Culture (Statens Arbeidsstipend for yngre/nyetablerte kunstnere 1 år)
- 2001 Pilchuck Glass School full Scholarship to attend Deborah Dohnes and Fred Tschidas class 'Neon Road Test'
- 2001 1 year young artists working grant from the Norwegian Ministry of Culture (Statens Arbeidsstipend for yngre/nyetablerte kunstnere 1 år) 2001 Project grant from the City of Bergen.
- 2000 Norsk Kulturråd (Utstillingsstipend) Exhibition grant for an exhibition at the St. Jørgen hospital in Bergen.2002.
- 2000 1 year young artists working grant from the Norwegian Ministry of Culture (Statens Arbeidsstipend for yngre/nyetablerte kunstnere 1 år)
- 2000. Establishing grant from the City of Bergen (Bergen Kommune etablering stipend)
- 2000 Exhibition grant from the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Utenriksdepartementet) for the exhibitions at the Riley Hawk Gallery & Tacoma Art Museum
- 1999 Norsk Kulturråd, (Utstyrstøtte), grant for buying equipment
- 1999 Establishing grant, (Etablerings stipend) Norwegian Ministry of Culture (Kulturdepartementet)
- 1999 Pilchuck Glass School: Emerging Artist in Residence grant.
- 1999 Travel grant from the Icelandic ministry of culture, (Stjórn Listamannalauna)
- 1999 Jutta Cuny-Franz Foundation, Düsseldorf, Honorary Diploma for high quality work
- 1997 Full Pilchuck scholarship to attend the course of Gene Koss at the Pilchuck Glass School, WA, U.S.A.
- 1995-96 The Andrew Grant Bequest A Major Scholarship for postgraduate studies at the Edinburgh College of Art.

## Selected Catalogues, Articles and Reviews

- 2018 Scandinavian Glass Starting All Over, Glasmuseet Ebeltoft ISBN 978-87-91179-30-3
- 2016 European Glass Context, Bornholm Art Museum.
- 2015 Craft 2015 / Kunsthåndverk 2015, National Museum Oslo
- 2015 Kampen med materialet Norske Kunsthåndverkere i 40 år
- 2014 The Coburg Prize for Contemporary Glass 2014
- 2014 Aurora, Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2013 Gage Gaze, Æsa Björk and Hiromi Takizawa, Fosdick-Nelson Gallery
- 2013 Exploding Boundaries: Faculty and Staff Exploration in Drawing, Fosdick-Nelson Gallery, School of Art and Design, Alfred University
- 2011 Glass 2011, Gjøvik, Norway
- 2011 Northern Glass Presentation of Norwegian Glass Artists http://www.northernglass.no
- 2011 Neues Glas/New Glass Magazine Corning review
- 2010 Koro Kunst I offentlige rom 2009 Lindebøskauen skole p. 150-151
- 2010 Kunsthåndverk issue 3/10 review of the exhibition "Impressions" at S12 Galleri og Verksted
- 2010 Oppland Arbeiderblad 18.08.10 & 31.08.10 presentation and jurors statements on the sculpture proposals for Gjøvik
- 2006 Morgunblaðið. (Island) 03.10.06 p.41
- 2006 Bergens Tidende. "Over dammen etter glass" 22.09.06 p.23
- 2004 Romsdals Budstikke, 03.10.04, p.31
- 2002 Bergens Tidende & Bergens Avisen on the exhibition ...cover... 13.10.02
- 2000 Clearly Brilliant, A Decade of Pilchuck Glass School's Emerging Artists in Residence, Tacoma Art Museum ISBN 924335-22-X
- 2000 Kunsthåndverk nr.79, 4/00 Profil
- 1999 Aftenposten, Internasjonalt kunstmøte 7. desember '99 p.16
- 1999 Glokal Kunst i Norge 1999-2000, IKM Internasjonalt Kultursenter og Museum ISBN 82 91647-12-7
- 1999 Neues Glas/New Glass Magazine 3/99
- 1998 GLASS new frontiers in contemporary glass, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh ISBN 1 872291 77 5
- 1998 EMBODY contemporary sculptural glass, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art ISBN 0-905108-37-X (Artsbooks International)
- 1998 CRAFTS Magazine, nov/des issue no.155
- 1998 CNN The Art Club, 22. August
- 1998 Articles and reviews on the exhibitions EMBODY and GLASS where published during June-July in the following newspapers and magazines:
- The Herald, Glasgow/ The Scotsman/ The List/ Sunderland Echo/ Northern Review/ The Crack & The Independent Saturday Magazine.
- 1998 Bergens Tidende, Med øyet som kamera, 29. april.

#### Collections

Nasjonalmuseet for kunst, arkitektur og design / The National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo, Norway

KODE, Kunstmuseene i Bergen / KODE art Museums of Bergen, Norway

Post- og Teletilsynet / Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority

#### Member of

MHR - Reykjavík Sculptor association, SIM - Icelandic artists association, NK - norske kunsthåndverkere / Norwegian Crafts Association, GAS, Glass Art Society www.glassart.org