

SYLVIE VANDENHOUCKE

bio

Sylvie Vandenhoucke holds a MA and MPhil from the Royal College of Art (RCA), London. Her work can be found in many private and public collections worldwide including Museum of Arts and Design (New York), Toledo Museum of Art (Ohio), Chrysler Museum of Art (Virginia), Royal Museum of Scotland (UK), Musée du Verre Sars-Poteries (France) and Design Museum Ghent (Belgium).

She taught at several universities in Europe, was an invited External Examiner for Doctoral Degrees at the RCA London and from 2009 till 2012 she was the Visual Arts Research Coördinator at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts Antwerp, Belgium. As an active researcher she was granted an Arts and Humanities Research Council Grant (UK, 2006) and a Research Fellowship of the Higher Education Funding Council of England (UK, 2007) for her ground-breaking research in pâte de verre. Her light-sensitive work has gradually evolved from small objects to in-situ installations and interventions.

course description

INTEGRATION

This masterclass aims to explore the potential to create or extend one's visual language through combining the dynamics of glassblowing with the controlled detail that working with pâte de verre offers. Traditionally the technique of pâte de verre aspires to obtain a 'skin' of glass by firing a layer of glass particles against the sides of a mould. Through demonstration, hands-on exercises as well as through learning about contemporary and historical context, students will gain insight in the properties of pâte de verre.

After initial instruction on pâte de verre making and glassblowing, concepts and ideas around *integration*, are the incentives for exploring many possible routes to combine both techniques. By thinking about transecting the processes at different stages, methods will be developed and tested through experimentation and analysis. Intricate colour, form and fitting, shape guiders, dialogues, attachments or inclusions... are only a few options to be probed with an open approach and inventive minds.