

Jinya Zhao China b. 1994

Zhao Jinya's intention is to playfully explore how glass can affect the viewers perception of reality and to engender emotional responses. She uses opaque and transparent layered blown glass to deliberately obscure the interior of the specific enigmatic forms. This creates a paradoxical interpretation of what is interior or exterior.



Installation image of *The Innate Resonance of Bones* in the exhibition *Fluid Threads* ©Ruth Ward

January 2025

Taste Contemporary

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Jinya Zhao Biography

Born and raised in China, Zhao Jinya discovered a passion for glass whilst studying for a BA at the China Academy of Art (2013-17) and MA at the Royal College of Art in UK (2017-19). She sees glass as an ideal medium to explore the themes of environment, emotions and personal experiences.

Jinya's work spans sculpture, installation and design. In her current collection she has created a body of new work, using different glass qualities in order to explore the subtle relationships and tensions between colour, form and structure. Her intention is to playfully explore how glass can affect the viewers perception of reality and to engender emotional responses. She uses opaque and transparent layered blown glass to deliberately obscure the interior of the specific enigmatic forms. This creates a paradoxical interpretation of what is interior or exterior.

Education

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| 2021 | Present. PhD Arts & Humanities at Royal College of Art - London UK |
| 2020-21 | MRes, Arts & Humanities - Royal College of Art, London UK |
| 2017-19 | M.A. Ceramics & Glass - Royal College of Art - London UK |
| 2013-17 | B.A. Product Design (Glass Art & Design) - China Academy of Art, Hangzhou. PRC. |
| 2018 | In-Depth Introduction to Venetian Glass Techniques. Corning Museum of Glass. Corning. USA. Training: Frit de Verre & Hot Printing on Glass. Pilchuck Glass School. Stanwood. USA |

Selected Commissions and Collections

Eton College, Windsor, UK
Ting-Ying Foundation, London, UK
Victoria and Albert Museum, London. UK
Qingdao Art Museum, Qingdao, UK
Ulster Museum, Belfast. UK
B.J.C. Guangzhou, PRC
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. USA
Prague Gallery of Czech Glass, Prague, CZ
China Vanke Co, Hangzhou, PRC
China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, PRC

Selected Exhibitions | Solo & Two Person

- 2025 **Fluid Threads, – two-person exhibition of Ptolemy Mann and Jinya Zhao, Taste Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland**
Jinya Research Exhibition, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Shenzhen, PRC (upcoming)
- 2023 Shanghai Liuli, China Museum, Shanghai – PRC
Nebulosity Walk in Thy Memory: Jinya Zhao Glass Art Exhibition, Liuli China Museum, Shanghai, PRC
- 2020 Almaden Country Day School, San Jose, USA
- 2019 Carbondale, USA
- 2016 See, But Cannot See Through – Jinya Zhao Solo Show. China Vanke Co., Ltd. Hangzhou.

Selected Exhibitions | Group

- 2025 Chinese Contemporary Studio Craft, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK (upcoming)
- 2024 La Nature! La Muse, M&O Design Factory Hong Kong, Hong Kong, HK SAR
Exhibition of Chinese and Foreign Art and Glass Materials Research, Crafts Museum of CAA, Hangzhou, PRC
The Spirit of Zhong: the 2nd Contemporary Chinese Design and Craft Exhibition, Rong Bao Zhai, Sea World Cultural and Arts Centre, Shenzhen, PRC
Toyama International Glass Exhibition 2024, Toyama Glass Art Museum, Toyama, JP
Colour Made Manifest, Material Engagements Research Cluster (MERC) exhibition, Pumphouse Gallery, London, UK
Objects of Contemplation, Make – Hauser & Wirth, London, UK
ARPER Booth, Milan Salone del Mobile 2024, Milan, IT
Cabinet of Curiosities – NATURA – MATERIA, ANEST COLLECTIVE, Milan, IT
The Wind from the East, Tower Gallery, Eton College, Windsor, UK
Chasma, Royal College of Art School of Arts & Humanities PhD group exhibition, Beaconsfield Gallery, London, UK
- 2023 Soplo, the Link and Generation between Artists and Glass Materials, Taoxichuan Glass Studio, Jingdezhen, PRC
Sattvic Beings, Chen Lizhu & Zhao Jinya Duo Exhibition, 1979 Gallery, Sea World Culture and Arts Center, Shenzhen, PRC
New Perception of Technology, Exhibition of Contemporary Experimental Crafts, Crafts Museum of CAA, Hangzhou, PRC
Strange Friends, Make – Hauser & Wirth, London, UK
Oh! You Pretty Things, Contemporary Arts & Crafts Exhibition, Qiushui Villa, Hangzhou, PRC
Hopscotch: The RCA PHD Biennale 2023, Copeland Gallery, London, UK

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| | In Residence III, Cromwell Place, London, UK |
| | Design Miami, Zhang Yuan, Shanghai, PRC |
| | The Value in Things, Cromwell Place, London, UK |
| 2022 | Song Art Museum, Beijing. PRC. |
| | Zhao Jinya – Glass Art, Connolly. London. UK. |
| | Contemporary Chinese and Japanese Art, Cromwell Place. UK. |
| | Glass Language, International Contemporary Glass Art Exhibition, Beijing |
| | World Art Museum & Art Museum of Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts. |
| | Beijing & Guangzhou. PRC. |
| | Only Informing the Arrival of Spring. Ceramic Art Avenue Art Gallery, |
| | Fansha, Jingdezhen. PRC. |
| | Listen to the Light in the World of Glass. Shanghai Tower. Shanghai, PRC. |
| | Expanding Horizons, International Festival of Glass. Stourbridge, UK. |
| | Qingdao International Glass Medium Art Exhibition. Qingdao Art Museum. |
| | Qingdao. PRC. Gone With the Wind, Landblink Art Space. Shanghai. PRC. |
| | Three Paths, Academic Nomination Exhibition of China’s Contemporary |
| | Crafts. Crafts Museum of CAA. Hangzhou. PRC. |
| | Coburg Prize for Contemporary Glass, The European Museum of Modern |
| | Glass. Veste Coburg. DE. |
| | WOW!house. Design Centre Chelsea Harbour. London. UK. |
| 2021 | Nature Inside Art State, MAHÁ. Beijing. PRC. |
| | Towards a New Land: Tales of the Ancient Pavilion, Suzhou Garden Art |
| | Festival Contemporary Exhibition. Suzhou. PRC. |
| | Light Up, Taoxichuan Glass Art Centre. Jingdezhen. PRC. |
| | Crafting a Difference, Represented by Ting-Ying Gallery. Argentine |
| | Ambassador’s Official Residence, London, UK. |
| | The Extraordinary Ordinary, AN+ Art & Design Centre. Shenzhen. PRC. |
| | Artefact, Ting- Ying Gallery. Design Centre Chelsea Harbour, London, UK. |
| | Ideal Fringes, Landblink Art Space, Shanghai, PRC. |
| | Glass Art Society Exhibition, Seattle, USA. |
| | Omaggio, Milan Design Week, Milan, IT. |
| | Isolation, San Mei Gallery, London, UK. |
| | Research Biennale, Royal College of Art, London, UK. |
| | Crafting a Difference. Represented by Ting-Ying Gallery, SoShiro, London, |
| | UK. |

Selected Art Fair

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| 2025 | Artgenève, represented by Taste Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland |
| 2024 | Artgenève, represented by Taste Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland |
| 2023 | West Bund Art & Design Fair, Represented by 1979 Gallery, West Bund Artistic |
| | Centre, Shanghai, PRC |
| 2021 | West Bund Art & Design Fair. Represented by Ting- Ying Gallery, Shanghai. |
| | PRC. |

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Selected Bibliography | Books and Catalogues

- 2023 New Glass Review
- 2022 Corning Museum of Glass, USA
Elle Decor China. Beijing. PRC
Glass Art Society Exhibition. Seattle. USA.
Elle Decor Italia. Milan. IT.
New Glass Art and Architecture Eltville. DE
Fusion & Crossover - The Contemporary Glass Art Triennale Beijing. PRC
Contemporary Glass Society London. UK.
Inspired: London Glass Blowing. London. UK.
- 2019 Rising Stars. London. UK.
China Academy of Art A Journey of 90 Years. Hangzhou. PRC.
Temperature Curve: Infuse. Hangzhou. PRC.
New Glass Art and Architecture. Eltville. DE.
- 2018 New Glass Review 39 Corning Museum of Glass. USA.
Yearbook of Chinese Art Chinese Contemporary Artist Association. Beijing. PRC.

Selected Awards

- 2024 Barrio Glassworks Artist Appreciation Award by Pilchuck Auction & Gala, Barrio Glassworks Glass Studio, Carlsbad, USA
Jury's Prize, Toyama International Glass Exhibition 2024, Toyama Glass Art Museum, Toyama, JP
- 2022 Shortlist, Coburg Prize for Contemporary Glass 2022, The European Museum of Modern Glass, Veste Coburg, DE
- 2020 Excellence Award. The 7th Chengdu Creativity & Design Week - Golden Panda Tianfu Creative Design Award. Chengdu. PRC. 2019. Wallpaper* Graduate Directory 2020 featured design. London. UK.
- 2019 Commended. New Graduate Review 2019. Contemporary Glass Society. Norfolk. UK
Shortlist. The Signature Art Prize. London. UK. 2019. Finalist. Visual Art Open. London. UK
Finalist. SL Award. Stanislav Libenský Award Competition Exhibition The New Town Hall. Prague. CZ.
Travers Smith CSR. London. UK.
Honourable Mention
Glass Art Society Exhibition. Morean Arts Centre. Saint Petersburg. USA.
Scholarship. Glass Art Society. Saint Petersburg. USA.
- 2018 Scholarship. Corning Museum of Glass. Corning. USA
Scholarship. Pilchuck Glass School. Seattle. USA.

2017

Winner, Special Prize, SL Award, Stanislav Libenský Award Competition Exhibition. Dox Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague, CZ
Finalist, SL Award, Stanislav Libenský Award Competition Exhibition 2017, Dox Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague, CZ



Installation image of *Tracing the Shadows of Time* and *Whispering through the Echoes of Ancient Dreams* in the exhibition *Fluid Threads*, 2025 ©Ruth Ward

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