

## **Aesa Björk** b. Reykjavik Iceland

Claus Fastingsgate 7, 5031 Bergen, Norway  
e-mail aesa@aesabjork.net - mobile + 47 91645186  
[www.aesabjork.net](http://www.aesabjork.net)

### **Education**

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

### **Solo exhibitions**

- 2014 SYN, S12 Galleri og Verksted  
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 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 Wrocław, 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 Glasbruk, Sweden, Pera Museum, Istanbul Turkey  
2013 Exploding Boundaries: Faculty and Staff Exploration in Drawing, Fosdick-Nelson Gallery, Alfred, NY  
2013 Gage/Gaze, with Hiromi Takizawa, 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 1<sup>st</sup> International Triennial of Silicate Arts, Kecskemét, Hungary  
2003 Galleri I, Bergen  
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](http://www.streetlevel.de))  
2000 Pilchuck Emerging Artists in Residence 1999, **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 Kunstlag, 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 Reykjavik 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 **Zursee 94**, Kultur(en) Festival, Waizenkirchen, Austria. (with students of Kopecky)  
1994 **Palmovka Synagogue**, students of Vladimír Kopecky's Glass studio, Prague.

### **Public Art**

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

## Comissions / Competitions

- 2015 One of four chosen for a closed competition at HIST, Trondheim.
- 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
- 2008 Sculptural work in glass representing pollen at the Natural History Museum in Bergen

## Residencies

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

## Selected work experience

- 2017-18 Chair of the board, Hordaland Kunstsenter, Bergen
- 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
- 2012 Interim Head of Glass at NYSCC - Alfred University, 1 semester
- 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 translator/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
- 2000 Teaching Assistant for Ann Robinson, session 4 Pilchuck Glass School, U.S.A.

## Self presentations, (lectures, critiques)

- 2016 European Glass Festival, Wroclaw
- 2016 Pilchuck Glass School, U.S.A.
- 2012 Visiting Critique, Rochester Institute of Technology, NY, U.S.A.
- 2012 Pecha-Kucha presentation, Toledo, OH, U.S.A.
- 2012 Virginia Commonwealth University, VA, U.S.A.
- 2011 Alfred University, NY, U.S.A.
- 2010 S12 Galleri og Verksted (as part of the summer course program)
- 2006 Nordnorsk Kunstnersenter, Svolvær
- 2006 Alfred University, NY, U.S.A.
- 2006 Corning Museum of Glass, NY, U.S.A.
- 2004 KMR Kunstnersenteret Møre og Romsdal at the exhibition no\_on
- 2003 Bergen Arkitekt Skole / Bergen School of Architecture, Norway
- 2003 Glass Forum, Averøy, Norway
- 2002 Lepramuseet i Bergen at the exhibition ...cover..., Norway
- 2000/1999/1997 Pilchuck Glass School, USA
- 1999 Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, USA (as part of the Pilchuck EAIR program)
- 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
- 2014 BEK, Bergen Center for Electronic Arts, beginners Arduino course
- 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
- 2005 Pilchuck Glass School, "Permanent Image on Glass" Brian Boldon & Mark Zirpel
- 2004 Atelier Nord, Oslo, Working with Flash (web program)
- 2001 Pilchuck Glass School, 'Neon Road Test' Deborah Dohne and Fred Tschida
- 1998 Mediaverkstedet i Bergen, (video techniques)
- 1997 Pilchuck Glass School, 'Casting Devices for Sculpture' Gene Koss

## Selected Scholarships, Grants & Awards

- 2015 Pilchuck Glass School Full scholarship to attend Digital Fab Lab.
- 2015 Bergen Kommune and NK travel grant to attend course at Pilchuck Glass School.
- 2015-19 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
- 2014 Transport Grant from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NK for shipping artwork to the Coburg Prize for Contemporary Glass.
- 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
- 2009 Pilchuck Glass School, half scholarship to attend Mark Zirpels and Ben Wrights class
- 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 Billedkunstneres 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**

- 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 Lokal 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 - Reykjavik Sculptor association, SIM - Icelandic artists association, NK - norske kunsthåndverkere / Norwegian Crafts Association,  
 GAS, Glass Art Society [www.glassart.org](http://www.glassart.org)