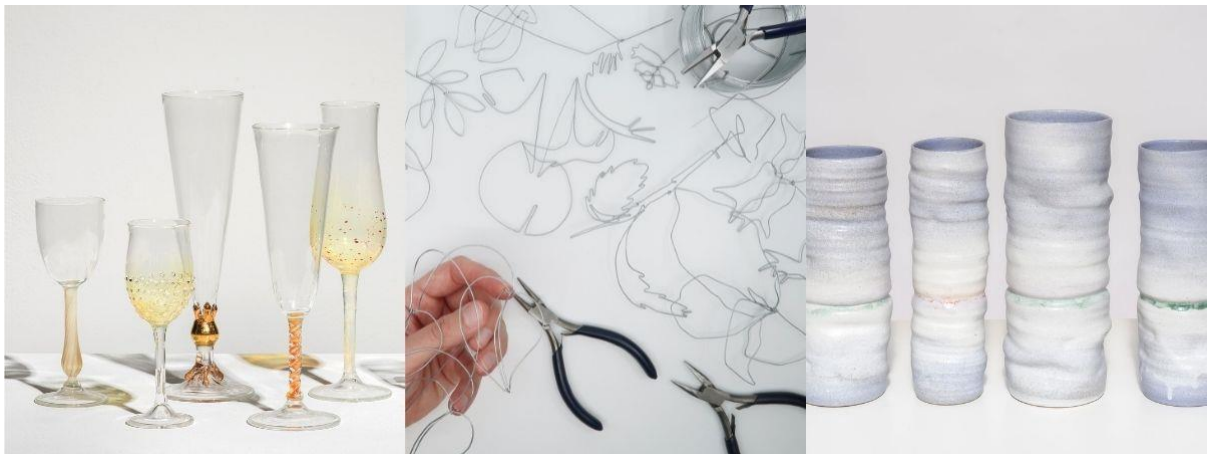




YOU GET A RHYTHM ABOUT IT | 6:30 SESSIONS | EMERGING CONTEMPORARIES

3 new exhibitions - Looking back on the career of an influential glass blower, makers thriving through Covid-19, and the showcasing of fresh craft and design talent



Canberra, Australia: Craft ACT: Craft + Design Centre is proud to begin the 2022 artistic program with three new exhibitions - *You get a Rhythm about it*, *6:30 Sessions*, and *Emerging Contemporaries*. These exhibitions reflect on the inspiring career of glass blower, Peter Minson. recognise the challenges faced by artists during Covid-19 and celebrate the development of emerging artists.

"It is so exciting to see the diversity in these three exhibitions in this contemporary artistic program which launches Craft ACT's 2022 exhibition program; our annual exhibition of emerging designers and craft practitioners, alongside a retrospective exhibition by a significant figure in Australian glass practice Peter Minson and a collaborative exhibition by two Brisbane based artists who created work together in lockdown. Over 25 artists are represented in these three exhibitions, which are testament to the power of creativity and making in our lives: past, present and future". - Craft ACT CEO and Artistic Director, Jodie Cunningham

With *You get a Rhythm about it*, Craft ACT pays respect to glass blower **Peter Minson**, who started learning scientific glass blowing at 16 years old. Growing up in a family of glassblowers, Minson was surrounded by encouragement and inspiration that fuelled his career as a lampworker that has spanned over 60 years. Minson's work has taken him around the world, teaching glass workshops in Sweden, Harvard University, Urban Glass in New York, and pursuing a research project on glass flowers across Europe. Minson continues to create work and is an active teacher and member of the glass community, working in his studio and gallery in Binalong, outside of Canberra. Craft ACT presents the work of Peter Minson, recognising his important contribution to glass art in Australia and internationally.

'Leaving school at 16 years old I worked full time in the factory making test tubes, many different sizes and more advanced glass apparatus like condensers, calibrated glass burettes, pipettes, volumetric



and vacuum work. Eventually I managed the business, employing and training the staff. Feeling I needed to learn more about glass and myself, building and operating a glass furnace, sorting out glass formula, teaching myself how to make led me to leave the family business in 1976 and try my hand at other more artistic and functional areas of glasswork. This initial change in direction plus more changes has continued over the ensuing 45 years leading me to where I am today' - Peter Minson, 2021.

6:30 Sessions was formed during the 2020 Covid-19 lockdowns, when **Michelle Stemm** and **Nellie Peoples** chose to 'meet' each other every morning at 6:30 am in their respective backyards. During these sessions, Stemm and Peoples would observe and draw the outside world to develop and feel more connected to their practices. This exhibition displays the work of Brisbane based designer-makers fostered through process driven interdisciplinary collaboration and object making during the pandemic. Through trauma, Stemm and Peoples believe that continuing to create during adversity creates resilient creative practise.

Emerging Contemporaries is a vital exhibition that supports early artists into transitioning into professional practise by placing new, talented artists into the forefront of national institutions, industry and audiences. Emerging Contemporaries is the Craft ACT National Award Exhibition for selected emerging designers and makers from numerous local Institutions such as Sturt School for Wood, Canberra Potters Society, Canberra Institute of Technology, University of Canberra, the ANU School of Art + Design, University of New South Wales and the CAPO Craft ACT Emerging Artist award. Craft ACT prides itself on nurturing new talent and adding to the growing artistic and design community in Canberra.

Images (L-R): Peter Minson, glass champagne flutes, photo Brenton McGeachie. Nellie Peoples and Michelle Stem, 6:30 Sessions work in progress, photo courtesy of the artists. Oliver Owens, Lilli Pilli 5pm (detail), photo Brenton McGeachie.

IMAGES: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/148340214@N06/albums>

MEDIA CONTACT: For interview requests please contact Jodie Cunningham, CEO, Craft ACT at jodie.cunningham@craftact.org.au and 0438157940 or Welly McGarry, Gallery Manager at welly.mcgarry@craftact.org.au and 6262 9333.

Exhibitions

DATES: 3 February – 19 March 2022

You get a rhythm about it

- Peter Minson is a third-generation glassblower based in Binalong, NSW. Studying as a scientific glassblower Minson's practice has evolved to include artistic and functional work. Minson's delicate teapots, cups, and glasses are a testament to his great skill as a glassblower. Minson's work has been exhibited at Craft ACT, Kirra Galleries and Glass Artist' Gallery. He has taught at the ANU School of Art and RMIT University.

6:30 Sessions (more info needed here)

- Michelle Stemm
- Nellie Peoples

Emerging Contemporaries (more info needed here)

- Sarah Barlow is a graduate from the University of New South Wales



- Ailish Power is a graduate from the University of New South Wales
- Noel Davar is a graduate from the Sturt School for Wood
- Brandon Harrison is a graduate from the Sturt School for Wood
- Moea Vonsy is a graduate from the Sturt School for Wood
- Shen-Ju Hsieh is from the Canberra Potter's Society
- Tessa Hoser is from the Canberra Potter's Society
- Elliane Boulton is a graduate from the Canberra Institute of Technology
- Lucy Stackpool is a graduate from the Canberra Institute of Technology
- Alex Khoo is a graduate from the University of Canberra
- Eliza Styles is a graduate from the University of Canberra
- Abbie Holbrook is a graduate from the ANU School of Art + Design
- Kate Rice is a graduate from the ANU School of Art + Design
- Dom Gowans is a graduate from the ANU School of Art + Design
- Bronwyn Sargeson is a graduate from the ANU School of Art + Design
- Roz Hall is a graduate from the ANU School of Art + Design
- Adeline Higgins is a graduate from the ANU School of Art + Design
- Oliver Owens is a graduate from the ANU School of Art + Design
- Cathy Zhang is a graduate from the ANU School of Art + Design
- Solomon Gates is a graduate from the ANU School of Art + Design
- Sue Peachy is the CAPO Craft ACT Emerging Artist