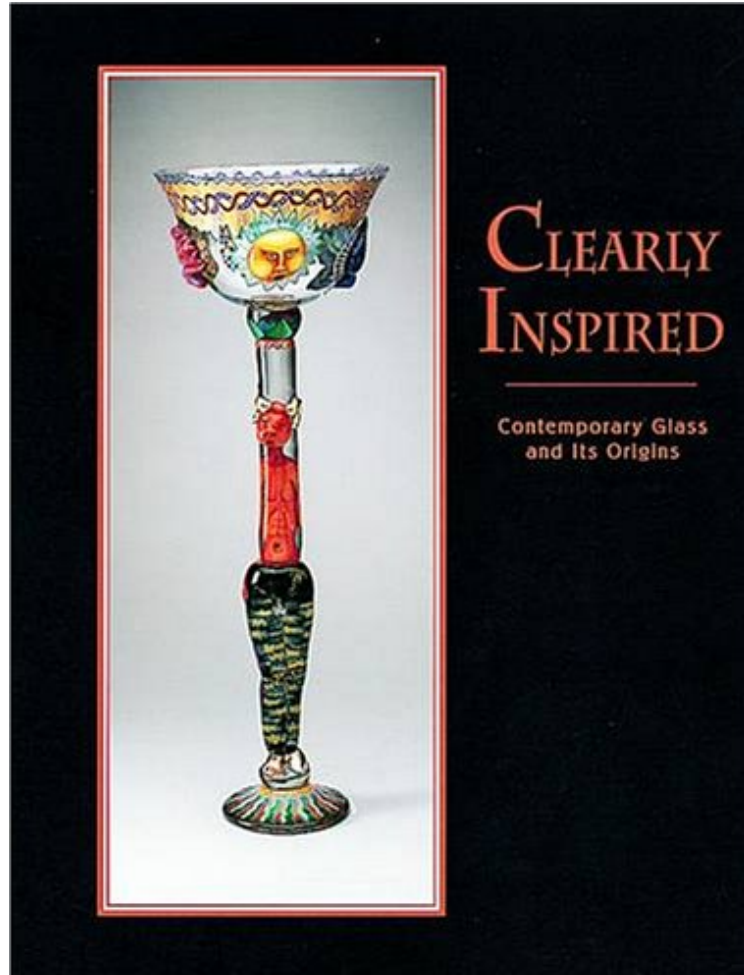


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Clearly Inspired: Contemporary Glass and Its Origins

Tampa Museum of Art, Karen S. Chambers
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Tampa Museum of Art, Karen S. Chambers : Clearly Inspired: Contemporary Glass and Its Origins before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Clearly Inspired: Contemporary Glass and Its Origins:

14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Provides ideas inspiration for glass artists By Angel Lee This is a great book for any glass artist seeking ideas inspiration. It also makes a great coffee table book. It is in full-color features a wide variety of beautiful, fused, blown, painted, lampworked stained glass artwork. Artwork is arranged by artist. Most have more than one example of their artwork shown, along with biographical information. Captions list the artist, title, date, size, techniques used, photographer. One of my favorite pieces is a nude woman lying down resting her hands on her face. I also enjoyed two unique dragon stemmed glasses a blue sand-carved vase with white flowers. The dragonfly bowl is also quite impressive. A history of glass art with photos of antique pieces provides a prelude to the marvelous contemporary work that makes this book such a delight. The selections are outstanding and all

beautifully photographed.

Book by Chambers, Karen S., Oldknow, Tina

From Library Journal The difficulty in assessing glass art lies in separating artistic ability and intent from the sheer sensual beauty of the material. Can a shimmering emerald piece of glass be improved by letting an artist mold its shape or decorate its surface? *Clearly Inspired* is a lively catalog written to accompany an exhibition (in Tampa and Fort Wayne) exploring the premise that contemporary studio glass artists draw on historical antecedents. Chambers and Oldknow, who have both written previous books on glass art and artists, illustrate this premise with examples of Roman, French, Venetian, German, and Russian glass and the work of 20 contemporary glass artists. An 18-page essay presents an overview of glass history from dynastic Egypt to the present, and a complementary essay discusses each modern artist and his or her working methods. Authored by British writer Tom Goodearl and glassblower Marilyn Goodearl, *Engraved Glass*, on the other hand, approaches contemporary art-glass through surface decoration (although many of the objects are blown or molded specifically to enhance the engraving). The majority of the 60-plus artists represented here are Europeans who have been influenced by traditional engraved goblets and bowls. Some innovative works, which pay more attention to manipulating form and color, are also presented. Disappointingly, the short accompanying essays are of minimal value. *Clearly Inspired*, with its useful essays and broader scope, will be suitable for all libraries; *Engraved Glass* will be of most interest to collectors and artists. A David McClelland, Philadelphia Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.