

# Transparent Images - Studio Glass Designs

**Judith Menges**

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## 'Artist's Statement' - Works in Glass

Judith Menges produces an innovative and sculptural range of wall hanging and functional '**Kiln formed Glass Art**'. Although she can resource any design to suit the individual, her current glass collections include Abstract Art, Gemstones/Birthstones, Botanical Glass Art and a Medical Art Series.

*"Glass exceeds all other modes of visual expression in its infinite capacity to be not only translucent and tactile, but an unusual medium that allows for creativity that is not possible with other forms of art."*

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## Current Themes and Inspiration: Realistic and Conceptual

*Her technique of 'Painting with Glass' has allowed her to produce over 6 different series of 'Glass Art' images and the collection evolves and changes each year, so remains fresh and distinctive.*

**Abstract Art:** Unique wall hanging and sculptural 'glass art' (Any themes or colours).

**Gemstones / Birthstones Series:** This series encompasses large, close-up glass images of transparent and opaque gemstones in their natural state. 'Wall hanging Glass Art', or one-of-a-kind, birthstone themed gifts.

**Botanical Glass Art:** This series is inspired by the natural world around us, flowers (Orchids, Lily, Poppy, Daisy, sunflower, etc), landscapes, plant and sea life.

**Planets and our Solar System:** Realistic glass images inspired by the new, true colour pictures of the planets and stars, presently being sent back by NASA and the Cassini Spacecraft.

**Medical Art/Sci-Art Series:** Realistic and conceptual 'Glass Art', inspired by micro-photographic images of the interior of the body and its cells.

**Functional Glass Art:** Unusual, curved and sculptural glass pieces; plus bowls, plates, coasters and glass table mats.

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## *Method of work: A unique technique of 'Painting with Glass' crystals*

- ? The clear, base glass is made from molten glass, rolled, cut and fire polished at source.
- ? **First firing:** Coloured frits, powders, and culets are placed onto the clear surface and fired at very high temperatures to liquefy and lay down the base colours.
- ? **Second and third firings:** The glass is then fired 1 - 2 more times at lower temperatures, to build up its surface; and to add the lenses, Dichroic glass crystals, shadows and highlights.
- ? Then it is polished, signed and mounted for hanging.
- ? This process gives the glass its unique sculptural aspect, and creates wonderfully tactile and reflective surfaces.

*Any light source directed onto the surface of the glass, will enhance its appearance and show the changing colours of the Dichroic glass crystals and lenses.*

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