

BARBARA NANNING

Glasmuseum Alter Hof Herding, Coesfeld, Germany, 9 April –3 July, 2011.
The Design Museum, Gent, Belgium, 31 March – 2 June, 2012.

THE acquisition of three works of the Dutch female artist Barbara Nanning for the glass collection in the year 2009 also provided an opportunity for the organisers to become personally acquainted with the artist. The way that Nanning apprehends the medium glass in such unusual and diverse series of works impressed the Foundation so that it decided to pay attention and acknowledge her achievement with this solo exhibition of her brand-new works, called "Eternal Spring".

Barbara Nanning was born in The Hague in 1957, and initially made a name for herself in the international art scene with one-of-a-kind ceramic works following her formal studies at the Amsterdam Rietveld Akademie. After that, she turned to glass under an order from the National Glass Museum and Royal Glass Works Leerdam. With the passion for this material aroused her artistic career took a new direction. For Nanning the natural world, with its manifold shapes, textures and colours, is an inexhaustible source of inspiration.



'Verre d'Eglomise', 2007, blown glass, handformed, 31 x 28 x 36 cm

Hence, her works are filled with dualities and contradictions which unite amorphous and rigid structures, liberty and rank, manual perfection and the application of unexpected materials.

A real priming that inspired her to commence the new works was

experienced by the artist in 2010 during a trip to the stronghold of the glass industry Nový Bor in the Czech Republic, where she had previously worked for many years with professional glassblowers on numerous projects. On the way she called on Meissen in Saxony and visited a porcelain exhibition and immediately the spark ignited in her mind to transform this white splendor and beauty to glass. The result are works of high aesthetics, brightness and haptic charm – all of which are messages of the artist's "Eternal Spring".

Barbara Nanning's new repertoire filled with varieties includes wall and floor installations as well as solitary and group objects and also humoresque pieces, such as the small red kiss mouth of the wall work, *Kiss Kiss Kiss*, among others.

Julia Geldmann

Barbara Nanning's next exhibition in 2012 will be held in cooperation with the ADGallery & Consultancy, Antwerp in Belgium.

PHOTO: TOM HARTSEN



'Untitled', 2010, blown white opaque glass, handformed, 69 x 36 x 43 cm



'Untitled', 2010, blown glass, handformed, with red overlay, ht 53 cm

PHOTO: FRANTISEK KUMSTA



'Untitled', 2010, blown white opaque glass, handformed, tallest 51 cm

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