



## **Art in Action**

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### **PRESS RELEASE March 2010**

#### **Art in Action to give £1000 prize at Glass Biennale**

Art in Action are to give a £1000 award at this year's British Glass Biennale. The award will be called The Art in Action Award for Contemporary Glass. The winner will also be invited to demonstrate at Art in Action 2011.

"Art in Action very much supports the aims of the Glass Biennale" said Stephen Prendergast, Art in Action glass section organiser, "and we wish it every success. We hope the Art in Action award can make a small contribution to the growth of Studio Glass in the UK".

No judging criteria has as yet been set for the award, but the judging panel have agreed they will be looking for 'good craft combined with creativity'.

Art in Action is an annual event attracting between 20,000 and 30,000 visitors over four days. Arts represented this year will include glass, calligraphy, ceramics, drawing, illustration, metalwork and jewellery, painting, printmaking, sculpture, textiles, woodwork, music, and performance. The glass section will host around twenty artists demonstrating glassblowing, lamp working, cold working and engraving.

Art in Action takes place at Waterperry House and Gardens, Oxfordshire on the 15 – 18 July.

The British Glass Biennale is part of the International Festival of Glass which takes place in and around Stourbridge, West Midlands from 23 – 11 September 2010. Glass master classes run from 23 – 26 August. The festival events take place from 27 - 30 August and the British Glass Biennale starts on 27 August and continues until 11 September. Event details at [www.ifg.org.uk](http://www.ifg.org.uk) and [www.biennale.org.uk](http://www.biennale.org.uk).

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#### **Notes for Editors**

Founded in 1977, Art in Action is a festival of fine art and master craftsmanship, where artists take the visitor on a creative journey by demonstrating what they do, often from concept to completion. Staged in the grounds of Waterperry House, Oxfordshire, artists set up their studios each July in one of the many marquees. They work in front of visitors, giving them the rare opportunity to observe the creative process at first hand.

Art in Action champions art in many disciplines and forms, from the traditional to the contemporary. Every year it welcomes artists who specialise in preserving ancient skills and those who are at the cutting edge of their field. In 2010 artists will demonstrate their expertise in Painting, Sculpture, Drawing and Printmaking, Ceramics, Calligraphy and Illustration,

Glass, Metalwork and Jewellery, Nature in Art (where artists work in a range of art forms but all take their inspiration from nature), Textiles and Woodwork. We are delighted to welcome a new section, International Art, featuring artists from around the world working in numerous disciplines.

One of the many unique features of Art in Action is the large selection of practical classes on offer. There are opportunities for approximately 4000 visitors to take a class in a wide and eclectic number of subjects from mosaic making for 3-7 yrs to Japanese style bookmaking for the over 16s. Half of the classes are run by some of the UK's most prestigious and established colleges and institutions, including the Drawing School of the New English Art Club, West Dean College, the Prince's School of Traditional Art and the Guild of Glass Engravers. A number of classes can be booked in advance online ([www.artinaction.org.uk](http://www.artinaction.org.uk)), but demand is high. Following a class, enthusiasts can purchase art materials and publications to refine their skills or just get started. There is also the Craft Market where more than 100 designer-makers sell quality goods.

In addition, Art in Action offers fine music, performing artists and storytelling for children. There are lectures organised by NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Art Societies) and visitors can take guided tours of the beautiful Waterperry gardens and the exquisite frescoes on the walls of Waterperry House that were completed in 2006 - a 10-year project. There is a wide range of refreshments: cream teas from the Pear Tree Restaurant, a good selection of wines, champagne and Pimm's and numerous organic and artisan food stalls throughout the site. Art in Action is truly a celebration of creativity as well as a great day out for families and art lovers. People come year after year – often, they say, as much for the atmosphere as for the works on show.

**Watch a short film about Art in Action on the website: [www.artinaction.org.uk](http://www.artinaction.org.uk)**

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#### **Event details**

**Venue:** Art in Action  
Waterperry House, Near Wheatley  
OXFORD OX33 1JZ

**Website:** [www.artinaction.org.uk](http://www.artinaction.org.uk)

**Tel:** 020 7381 3192

**Date/time:** 15-18 July 2010, open 10am-5.30pm daily

**Tickets:**

Adults	£15 (Booked online £14.00)
Senior citizens	£12 (Booked online £11.00)
Concessions	£8 (Booked online £7.00)
Child (9-17 years)	£5 (Booked online £4.00)
Under-9s	free
Family and season tickets available	
Car parking free	

Party rates for pre-booked minibuses and a limited number of coaches by arrangement – contact the office (020 7381 3192) in advance.