

## **Barna Ioan**

Barna Ioan is the only associate of the LCD Ltd. company and he is the one who organizes the production. He is in charge of a qualified glass blower team and he coordinates the activity of the staff who works in the workshop.

### ***A short presentation***

Born on the 2nd of August 1954 in Mihalt, in the district of Alba, Barna Ioan attended the Vocational School for glass manufacture in Turda between 1969 and 1972, and later on he was employed at "The Glass Factory" in Avrig, in the district of Sibiu where he had worked for about 25 years. During 1988 and 1996 he was appointed the leader of the creation team due to which he improved his knowledge in the field of glass manufacture. Between 1996 and 2003 he was employed by Ion Art Glass Ltd. Company.

The experience that he acquired in the field of glassware (almost 31 years of work) helped him to accomplish an old dream, that of making his own products in his own glass workshop.

## **The products**

Our products offer a unique combination of art and quality. The beauty and imagination of our glassware arises from centuries of Romanian tradition. Each piece is meticulously crafted by individuals with decades of experience, who are dedicated to their craft and art.

In production, all glass taken from the furnace is checked for purity before being inflated and shaped to the desired object. Often, objects require a team of dedicated craftsman working quickly, before the glass cools down, to model them.

No pieces are alike – each possesses an individual and singular character.

(So do not be surprised when pieces vary in shape or have subtle differences in patterns and colors – this is not only unavoidable, it is part of the charm and value – demonstrating the individual craftsmanship impart to each object by its maker.)

## **Technique**

### ***Glassblowing***

Glassblowing is the process of creating objects out of glass by sinking the heated end of a pipe (blowing pipe) into molten glass, turning it, and then inflating the glass like a balloon. Glassblowing exists since 50 B.C.

The technique of making glass seems to be quite old (around 5000 B.C.) and was discovered by mistake. By using blocks of soda instead of cooking stones the Phoenician sailors observed that sand and soda turned into molten glass once the temperature increased.

In our glass studio, we use small pieces of glass coming from a specialized factory in order to obtain the molten glass.

## ***How the objects are made***



The glassblowers take the glass using a blowing pipe. This process has to be very fast, otherwise the molten glass become cold and the process of inflating cannot take place anymore. Every ball taken from the oven is checked for purity and if the test pass, the ball is inflated until the wanted size is reached.



The glass ball at the end of pipe has to be formed using wooden tools, until is symmetrically shaped and this is the first time when air is blown into it.



New molten glass is brought forming the leg of the object or other decorations.



After the object is well shaped, the final adjustments has to be made (cutting, rewarming, opening, ...).



After the object is finished, the piece is placed into a special oven to cool (to anneal). Glass is cooled in about 12 hours in order to remove all internal tension from the glass. Annealing prevents the object from cracking.

## **Exhibitions**

- Gift Fair Sibiu, 2005
- Cer Glass, 2005
- Cer Glass, 2006