

## Victorian Vinaigrette Neckpieces

I am currently exploring historical jewellery in the Victorian-era, its purpose and traditional significance. Researching, appropriating and re-inventing the notions of jewellery as distinction, armament and personal protector. My primary inspiration for this latest body of work is how objects throughout history attained sacred, superstitious devotion. The credence and conviction attributed to holy objects as guardian and defender is a potent human characteristic throughout history.

Wearable trinket boxes and tiny vessels hung from chains were made in the Victorian-era to carry essential oils, perfumery or vinegar-soaked fabric. Aromatic herbs such as lavender, mint and rosemary were mixed with alcohol to create a pleasant perfume. These cultural objects were not only used to disguise bad personal hygiene or to mask less agreeable smells in the wearer's surroundings - they were imbued with protective powers. The wearer believing the 'Victorian Vinaigrette Neckpiece' could prevent one from fainting but also protect the wearer against rampant disease and plague of the time.

## EDUCATION

2000 Bachelor of Visual Arts, Sydney College of the Arts, Sydney University.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2014 Hotch-Potch Curio Cabinet, Sterling Gaffa Gallery, Sydney, NSW.

2012 Lost in Translation Curio Cabinet, Sterling, Gaffa Gallery, NSW.

2008 Shanghai Chic Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, Shop, NSW.

2005 Beijing Takings Pyrmont Studios Gallery, Sydney.

2004 Dreams of Spring JamFactory Purple Space, Adelaide, SA.

Finders Keepers Cul-de-sac Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2003 Takeaway Gallery 4A, Sydney, NSW.

Finders Keepers Zu design jewellery + objects, Adelaide, SA.

Finders Keepers Craft Queensland, Ivory Street Window, QLD.

## COLLABORATIVE EXHIBITIONS

2007 Le Boudoir Secret with Kat Freene, Jam Factory Gallery II, Adelaide, SA.

Le Boudoir Secret with Kat Freene, Cul-de-sac Gallery, Sydney, NSW.

1999 Transpire with Eva Katsikidis, Gallery 132, SCA Gallery, Sydney NSW.

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2014 Transform Gaffa Gallery, Sydney, NSW.

White Heat travelling exhibition Craft ACT & Jamfactory, SA.

2013 Naked & Nude Manning Art Prize, Manning Art Gallery, Tarree, NSW.

Takeaway 2013 JMGA-NSW, Studio 20/17, Sydney, NSW.

Wearable Art Glass Plus Gallery, Melbourne, VIC.

White Heat Gaffa Gallery, Sydney, NSW.

The finer things Zu Design, Adelaide, SA.

Art & About Festival Surry Hills Library, Sydney, NSW.

Sculpture for Sight Sight for All, St Marks College, Adelaide, SA.

2012 Grass is Greener... Zu Design, Adelaide, SA.

Handpicked Zu Design, Adelaide, SA.

Wearable Art Glass Plus Gallery, Melbourne, VIC.

2011 Trans-Siberian Arts Centre Project exhibition from Moscow to Beijing.

Wearable Art Glass Plus Gallery, Melbourne, VIC.

Box Project New Zealand Touring Exhibition.

2010 National Erotica Art Prize 2010 Artworkers Alliance, Brisbane, QLD.

RE:Production Gaffa Gallery, Sydney, NSW.

Hang Around Zu Design jewellery + objects, Adelaide, SA.

Box Project Gaffa Gallery, Sydney, NSW.

2009 Wearable Art Glass Plus Gallery, Melbourne, VIC.  
Friends of Breathing Colours Breathing Colours Gallery, Sydney.  
NCJA 2009 Griffith Regional Gallery, NSW.  
2008 From Mao to Now Sydney Olympic Park, The Armoury, Sydney.  
Wearable Art Glass Plus Gallery, Melbourne, VIC.  
Showcase Studio 20/17, Dank Street Complex, NSW.  
2007 Young Glass 2007 Ebeltoft Glass Museum, Denmark.  
Hobart Art Prize 2007 Finalist in Glass Section, Hobart, Tasmania.  
New from Australia Chappell Gallery, New York, USA.  
Encore Glass Artists' Gallery, Sydney, NSW.  
30th Alice Craft Acquisition Award Alice Springs, NT.  
2006 Ranamok Glass Prize 2006 Australian touring exhibition.  
Baubles, Bangles & Beads Bathurst Regional Gallery and Australian Tour.  
Expeditions 06 Metalab Gallery, Sydney, NSW.  
Embrace Soda Gallery, Sydney, NSW.  
Heart of Australia Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide, SA.  
2005 29th Alice Craft Acquisition Award Alice Springs, NT.  
Zu-est Zu Design jewellery + objects, Adelaide, SA.  
Utility in Touch Sydney College of the Arts Gallery, Sydney University.  
2004 Talente International Trade Fair Award & Exhibition, Munich, Germany.  
Australian Jewellery Showcase Hong Kong, Shanghai, Beijing, China.  
40 Object Galleries, Sydney, NSW.  
Here be Dragons 1000 Degrees, Avalon, NSW.  
Reflections Wagga Regional Gallery, NSW.  
2003 Cities of Gold & Silver Craft ACT, Canberra, ACT.  
SALA Festival, JamFactory Metal Studio Showcase, Adelaide, SA.  
28th Alice Craft Acquisition Award Alice Springs, NT.  
2002 SOFA, Glass Artists' Gallery Exhibit, Chicago, USA.  
27th Alice Craft Acquisition Award Alice Springs, NT.  
Contemporary Wearables 01 Australian Touring Exhibition.  
2001 SOFA, Glass Artists' Gallery Exhibit, Chicago, USA.  
SOFA, Australian Textile Art – the Material Speaks' Craft Australia, USA.  
Contemporary Wearables 01 Toowoomba Regional Gallery, QLD.  
RFC Glass Prize 2000 Australian Touring Exhibition.  
Where are we going? Yarra Sculpture Gallery, Melbourne, VIC.  
She who must be obeyed Walker Street Gallery, Dandenong, VIC.  
2000 GAS International Student Exhibition Circle Gallery, New York, USA.  
RFC Glass Prize Volvo Gallery, Sydney, NSW.  
Shades of Red & White Newspace, SASCA Gallery, Sydney, NSW.  
Frisk – MCA Staff Exhibition First Draft, Sydney, NSW.  
1999 Wee Gallery 19, Sydney, NSW.

## GRANTS & AWARDS

2013 Finalist, Manning Art Prize 2013 – Naked & Nude, Manning Art Gallery.  
Recipient, Australia Cultural Fund/Creative Partnership Australia DGR status.  
2010 First Prize(shared), National Erotica Art Prize 2010, Artworkers Alliance, QLD.  
2007 Finalist, Young Glass 2007, Ebeltoft Glasmuseet, Denmark.  
Finalist, Hobart Art Prize 2007, Glass Section, Hobart, Tasmania.  
2006 Finalist, Ranamok Glass Prize 2006 and Australian Touring exhibition.  
2004 Recipient, Australia-China Council Residency in Beijing, China.  
2003 Recipient, Pat Corrigan Artists' Grant, NAVA.  
Finalist Talente International Award & Exhibition, Munich, Germany.  
2002 Recipient, Cultural Grant, Ian Potter Foundation, Melbourne, VIC.  
2001 Recipient, NSW Marketing Grant, NAVA.

Zara Collins

Finalist Contemporary Wearables 01 Toowoomba Regional Gallery, QLD.  
2000 First Prize, GAS International Student Exhibition, New York, USA.  
Finalist, RFC Glass Prize 2000 and Australian Touring exhibition.

Collections

Numerous private collections throughout Australia, New Zealand, United States, Japan, South Korea, Denmark, Germany, United Kingdom, Canada and China.

Alex MacKay Collection  
Manning Art Gallery Collection