



# NICK DORAN ADAMS

2003 - 2009

## BECKWORTH ALUMNI - WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



### NICK DORAN ADAMS

Years at Ballarat Grammar: 2003 - 2009

#### What Art and Design subject(s) did you study when you attended Ballarat Grammar?

I studied Studio Art, Design and Technology and Visual Communication and Design.

#### What did you enjoy about these subjects?

Being able to learn skills from dedicated and passionate teachers, then immediately being able to use said skills to create items for different projects. Rob Hurley, Steve Walsh and Natalie Dunne were encouraging and supportive.

#### What skills do you believe you gained from studying these subjects?

Each subject gave me skills which I continue to use today. Studio Art gave me an understanding of how to look at art more critically, giving me the ability to question ideas behind an artwork and engage with the artwork. It also helped me develop an understanding of basic techniques for using glass as a material to create with. I am still using these skills in my practice today. Both Vis Comm and Design and Technology taught me how to work to a brief and use various techniques, programs and materials to meet the brief.

#### What did you create in your Art and Design subject(s) which you are most proud of?

Rob Hurley ignited my passion for glass when he introduced me to using glass as a medium in Year 9 and from then I was hooked. The pieces I created for Studio Art all helped develop my understanding of glass as a material. The open face castings, the gravity formed pieces and more complex lost wax castings were all amazing. In Design and Technology, Steve Walsh's support for ideas that allowed me to incorporate glass into jewellery continued my understanding of the material and its possibilities.

#### What were your biggest achievements in Art and Design when you were at Ballarat Grammar?

The Art Gallery of Ballarat held an exhibition of VCE students' work at the start of the next school year. I was lucky enough to have 2 pieces selected for the Next Gen 2010 exhibition. One piece from Studio Art and one from Design and Technology. The Design and Technology jewellery won the Design award that year. Next would have been using my art subject folios as a support for my application for a place at ANU. The Bachelor of Visual Arts: Glass only accepted two students straight from secondary school.

#### What was one of the most valuable things you learnt during your time in the Beckworth?

"Time spent on the details is not wasted." This may seem cliché but it is something I take into every piece I make.

#### What do you do now?

I am still working with glass and continuing to learn about it as a medium. While I work multiple jobs in the arts industry, it is most predominantly as a Glass Blower. I also assist other glass artists with their work. Creating in glass is often a team effort. I am making exhibition quality artworks and production items at the Canberra Glassworks. The production pieces I create are available at different galleries around Victoria and the ACT.

#### What are your major achievements since leaving Ballarat Grammar?

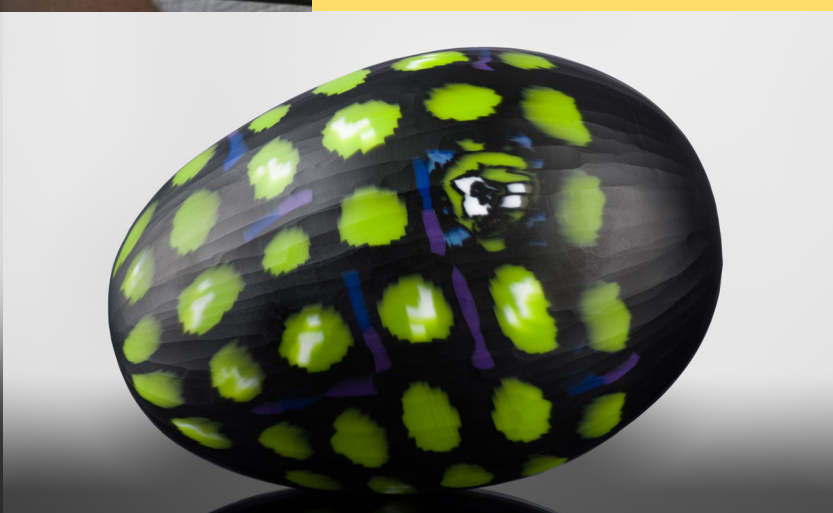
After completing my Honours degree, I won the Emerging Artist Support Scheme residency which gave me an opportunity to continue work by giving me studio time at the Canberra Glassworks. I have been lucky enough to have had work in multiple exhibitions both in Australia and internationally and winning a few awards along the way.

#### Would you suggest studying an Art and Design subject in Year 12?

That would be a definite yes! Even if you're not planning to go into the arts professionally, I think it's incredibly important to learn how to look at things in a more creative way. Studies today show us how the arts help across all subject areas.

#### Would you suggest the creative arts as a career?

Yes, I certainly would, although it is often undervalued, it is a part of daily life. Can you imagine a world without it?



## GLASS ARTIST