



AT KOSTA I

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INTRODUCTION quotes by Ann Wolff

quotes by Ann Wolff is partly an autobiography of Ann Wolff's professional life, her early doings until present time. She is an artist looking back on her life, wondering – reflecting on her motivations to continue, full of curiosity.

quotes are chosen moments, working periods to line up or to be studied one by one.



GörAnn Wärff

at KOSTA 1964–1971

Ann and Göran Wärff had worked sucessfully for Pukebergs Glasbruk for som time under the name of Göran Wärff. Having noticed their designs, Kosta Glassworks offered Göran Wärff a job at Kosta.



Finally and after long discussions, Kosta accepted to offer me a position, sharing the salary with my husband.

During the next 7 years, their work would be signed – Kosta Ann och Göran Wärff.







Now I was a wife, a mother-of-two and kind of a designer at a big company.

During 7 years the board considered me as Göran Wärff's wife. I was not taken seriously as one of their designers – this gave me a tremendous freedom.

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My curiosity was endless. I felt free to trial and experiment my way through hot and cold techniques at the glassworks.

1971 detail bowl



Ann experimented in the following hot techniques:

- glaze the glass 1965
- let glass sink on its own, BRAVA TECHNIQUE 1964
- SUNFLOWER sink technique 1968
- blowing into snow and icemolds 1967

GLAZE the **GLASS**

Ann would dip the hot glass-shapes in glaze, cool them and then engrave ornaments and shapes freely interpreted out of the flora on to them.





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Hot glass sinks and moves by its own gravity. Simple arrangements limit or enhance its flow.

SINK TECHNIQUE

Ann and Göran Wärff are awarded the LUNNING PRICE in 1968 for the achievement with the Brava technique. The award will pay for a 4-week trip through India.







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Blowing glass in snow and ice was an experiment in the search for new surfaces and textures.

SNOW and ICE



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I was fascinated by the colours that the Indian women used in their crafts and thrilled by the possibility to bring multicoloured layers to glass using blowing techniques to get a canvas to work on with etching.



COLD TECHNIQUES combination

- brush etching
- line etching
- sandblasting

In an early exhibition catalogue, Helga Hilschenz explains, "By the end of the 60's, using simple tools and a few textbooks, Ann Wärff acquired – through experimentation – the techniques of etching and sandblasting... on overlay and underlay."



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In India, I was amazed by the women's work on the hut walls and floors. It was painted, embroidered, stamped or drawn. Their work told the story of their gods in endless ornaments and symbols. This powerful folk art inspired me to work figuratively in thin lines on overand under-lay.

Ann combines line- and brush etching on over- and under-lay in 1965. Her trials will with time be considered sought after unique pieces, developed one by one.

Signed for 7 years (1964–1971) with both of their names: Ann and Göran Wärff, Kosta, and thereafter from 1971 to 1978 with Ann Wärff, Kosta.



1971 bowl, Ø 21 cm

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SANDBLASTING

In 1968, Ann initiates trials in sandblasting on glass. She will soon blend this technique with her etchings.

With a solid technical knowledge, Ann will focus on her specific topics in the following years. Her image themes become increasingly stronger. They touch the masculine and the feminine, motherhood, positive and negative, captivity and freedom.

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My pictures are not fully my own until I have comprehended them ... I am kept alive by the secret pleasure of discovering them and knowing them.

1968 GLOBUS, Ø 35 cm



ANALOG & DIGITAL **RESOURCES**

Kosta Glasbruk https://www.glasriket.se/sv/historia-kosta-boda

Ann Wolff, Raster förlag, Stockholm 2002, ISBN 91-87215-07-1 2002

India: Madhubani art by women https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madhubani_art

CURRICULUM VITAE

http://awfg.se/ann-wolff/



www.awfg.se