

Susan Purser Hope – Biography

Background

Susan Purser Hope established the interior design consultancy Hope Studios over 20 years ago and has worked in the UK interior design industry for 33 years. Hope Studios provides commercial interior design and contract furnishing services to clients in a variety of sectors including hospitality, healthcare, leisure, education and office, including Nuffield Hospitals, Best Western Hotel Consortium, Enterprise Inns and Business Link.

Explanation of Work

Graduating as a furniture designer, Sue has maintained a strong interest in the formation of design and it was a natural progression from interior design to the 'world of glass'. Susan has studied on the BA course in Glass at the University of Wolverhampton and has won several commissions and competitions for organisations such as The Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton. Susan Purser Hope's work explores the five core themes of History, Theatre, Nature, Tribes and Habitat, which all centre around her keen interest in creating pieces of 'living art'.

Quote

"I find glass an exciting material to work with, as it allows me to combine creative impulses with technical disciplines. My work is intended to be a living part of the environment it is placed in and I want the people who view it to connect with each piece and recognise echoes of their own experiences within in and for it to act as a passage to the mystery of what lies beneath the surface."

Method of Working

Susan's method of working involves creating 3D structures from 2D sheets of glass. She intersperses this with the manipulation of glass powders, frit and stringers. These are then fused and slumped as part of the firing process. Her work is often completed with a sand blasted finish.

Progression

As a result of the success of her interior work at Compton Hospice, Susan is now working on a commission for the newly landscaped exterior. This 45 metre long river of glass is located along the tops of curved seating alcoves for patients and their families to enjoy the healing benefits of sunshine and the verdant gardens. The inspiration for

this piece came from working closely with one of the co-designers of the Eden project in Cornwall and it centres around the natural world.

