

NEWS

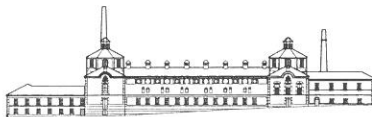
letter

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF GLASS MUSEUMS AND GLASS COLLECTIONS

MARCH 1995



ICOM GLASS MEETING
LA GRANJA, SPAIN, MAY 28 - JUNE 3, 1995



REAL FABRICA DE CRISTALES DE LA GRANJA

FOREWORD

The Royal Glass Factory of La Granja, an outstanding exponent of the industrial architecture of the 18th century, was rationally designed to house the glass masters and glass workers with their families, and to carry out all the different activities related to glass creation and production. To concept of how to combine art and technique on the one hand, and on the other, the interest of the Crown in generating a "melting pot" where knowledge and cultural feelings coming from different parts of Europe would fuse together. Eventually this created a great source of human and artistic expression. The influence that this had in Europe at that time was very important, but probably has never been well understood.

Therefore it is a great honor for the National Glass Center to welcome again in the Royal Glass Factory several different nationalities all linked to glass, to the next ICOM GLASS meeting.

La Granja of San Ildefonso, March 1995



Fundación Centro Nacional del Vidrio

- from the board.

In connection with our meeting in La Granja there will be a short business meeting where we have to elect members for the new board, also we have to consider options and possibilities for the coming places to have our meetings and finally, there will be chance to bring forward new ideas of interest for our committee.

The present board consist of:

Chairman: Jan Kock, Denmark
Secretary: Margrit Bauer, Germany
Sirkka Kopisto, Finland
Reino Liefkes, United Kingdom
Oliver Watson, United Kingdom
Jutta-Annette Bruhn, U.S.A.
Catharine Vaudour, France
Gunnel Holmer, Sweden

Jan Kock, Margrit Bauer and Sirkka Kopisto have been at the board for two turns and can therefore not be re-elected. Oliver Watson can be re-elected for one more turn.

So we kindly ask you for names on candidates prepared to be elected to our board. Please mail proposals to our secretary Margrit Bauer or me.

on behalf of the board

Jan Kock

Another German member!

Secretary: Margrit Bauer, Museum für Kunsthandwerk, Schaumainkai 17,
D-60594 Frankfurt, Germany.
Phone: +49 69 21 23 55 17. Fax: +49 69 21 23 07 03.

Chairman : Jan Kock, Institut for middelalderarkæologi, Moesgård,
DK 8270 Højbjerg.
Phone: +45 86 27 24 33. Fax: +45 86 27 23 78.

NEWS letter

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF GLASS MUSEUMS AND GLASS COLLECTIONS

October 1995

REPORT OF THE ICOM GLASS COMMITTEE MEETING

*May 28th - June 3rd 1995
La Granja, Spain*

THE ICOM GLASS COMMITTEE MEETING was held this year at the FUNDACION CENTRO NACIONAL DEL VIDRIO in La Granja, San Ildefonso, in Spain. There were about 24 participants.

The Centro Nacional del Vidrio is housed in the recently restored buildings of the Royal Glass Factory of La Granja. This glass-factory, erected by Carlos III in 1770, is probably the most impressive historical glass site anywhere in the world. It includes two vast domes that used to house the furnaces, and an enormous hall with annealing furnaces at the side. Part of this factory was used as a model for the engravings and descriptions in Diderot & D'Alembert's Encyclopedia.

La Granja is situated on the high plateau of Castilla (1.200 m), near Segovia, 80 km. south-east of Madrid. The first glasshouse at La Granja was set up in the early 18th century. The extensive woods around the village provided the necessary fuel for the furnaces. Today the Centro Nacional del Vidrio is an educational centre for glass historians and glassblowers and -designers. There is a library and a museum of European glass with an emphasis on local products of the 18th and 19th century.

The Icom Glass Committee was received with great generosity by Mr. Eliseo de Pablos, Director of the Centro Nacional, and his staff, notably Mrs. Olga Hein, the very efficient organiser of the daily program, and Miss Paloma Pastor, curator of the Museum.

Two temporary expositions were shown at the Centro Nacional:

"JAPAN: Contemporary Art in Glass". 27 contemporary Japanese glass artists exhibited their work here. The exhibition made clear how many glass makers are working at a very high level. The technical quality of some of the exhibits, especially of the *pâte-de-verre* by Kimiake and Shinichi Higuchi, was extraordinarily high. Many of the objects in the exhibition were more notable for their technical virtuosity than for their artistic qualities.

"European glass in use", glass for daily use from Europe, 1910-1995, a travelling exhibition organised by Kaisa Koivisto of the Finnish Glass museum. This show was inaugurated in honour of our visit.

MONDAY

After the formal opening, an introduction to the Centro Nacional by the Director and a visit to the glass centre, Mrs. Elena Ramirez Montesinos from the Museum of Decorative Arts in Madrid gave a historic overview of Spanish Glass.

TUESDAY

Morning: George Cort  z, Director of the glass factory Vicassa Catalonia and a colleague lectured on the present state of the Glass industry in Spain. The story was similar to that of other countries, with multi-nationals dominating the scene. Many big companies have started to produce glass in Spain because of relatively low salaries and easy access to raw materials.

-The Director of La Granja talked about the r  le of the Glass Centre in the promotion of industrial design and craftsmanship in glass.

-A computer database, primarily designed for the use of designers in smaller glass factories, was demonstrated. On-line information plus colour images of about 3000 pieces of Spanish glass (both historical & contemporary) and of photographs in trade catalogues is offered by La Granja. Unfortunately the whole system, including indices, is in Spanish only, which makes it difficult for foreigners to use. It was impressive, however, to see a database with images on such a scale. The transmission of images through a modem to the screen was quite slow (about 1-2 minutes) although it was stated that it would normally only take 20 seconds.

Afternoon: visit to the VICASA Glass Factory in La Granja, where heat-resistant glass and bottles for beer and perfume are produced.

WEDNESDAY

Morning: Lectures by participants and discussion.

-New research in glass art: Wendy Evans of the Museum of London, discussed the influence of the Riano Collection of Spanish glass, housed since 1873 in the Victoria and Albert Museum, on the designs of the London glass-works J. Powell & Sons.

Veronica Tatton-Brown of the British Museum discussed a group of Roman bi-coloured dishes, partly clear and partly deliberately coloured with manganese-oxide. Jan Kock, Chairman Icom Glass, introduced an exhibition on the collection of European glass in the Royal Household of Denmark, held in Copenhagen this summer.

-Some glass museums were introduced: the Museo del Vidrio at Monterrey, Mexico, by Director Eliseo Garza Salinas. The new extension of the Sm  l  nds Museum at V  xj  , Sweden, by Curator Gunnel Holm  r, and the brand new glass museum at Kozjansky Park in Slovenia, by Curator Joze Rataj.

Afternoon: official annual ICOM Glass Committee Meeting.

THURSDAY

Morning: 9.00-2.30 Lectures on Spanish policy on the Education of glass designers and craftsmen and official state restorers, by Mr. Fernando Rey Garcia from the Ministry of Education and by Mr. Jos   Maria Losada (Conservation and Restoration Institute). In these two lectures it became clear that Spain is still somewhat isolated from the rest of Europe and America, but an effort is being made to break out: restorers have to learn one foreign language and after their studies they could get a grant for a placement in a foreign institution. This placement is, however, not a compulsory part of the course.

-Lecture by Prof. Carlos Munoz de Pablos on restoration (or rather the reconstruction of missing parts) of stained glass windows.

-Lecture by Prof. Jose Maria Fernandez Navarro on representation of glasses in paintings, illustrated with 120 slides.

FRIDAY

Morning: Visit to an ancient Copper-hammer-mill. The structure, which is still in use was built in the 19th century, but actually looks much older, as every detail is home-crafted from local natural materials.

Visit to two castles with varied collections, including some glasses.

Lunch in a wonderful medieval mountain village near Segovia.

Afternoon: further visit to the Glass Centre in La Granja.

Evening: Gregorian chant concert in the old glass factory and farewell dinner.

SATURDAY

Closing of the meeting and journey to Madrid & home.

The next Icom Glass Committee Meeting will probably be held in Germany in 1996.

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REPORT OF THE BUSINESS MEETING OF THE ICOM GLASS COMMITTEE

31st May 1995 in La Granja

Chairman Jan Kock (Denmark) and Secretary Margrit Bauer (Germany) had to stand down, both having served their second term of three years.

Reino Liefkes (U.K.) and Jutta Bruhn (U.S.A.) were elected as new Chairman and Secretary, respectively, for the next three years.

Of the non-executive board-members, two were re-elected. Four members stepped down and three new members were elected.

The elected board-members will be in post from the General ICOM Meeting in Norway on 7th July 1995.

Board 1992-1995

Chairman:	Jan Kock
Secretary:	Margrit Bauer
Members:	Sirkka Kopisto Reino Liefkes Oliver Watson Jutta Bruhn Catherine Vaudour Gunnel Holmér

New Board

Reino Liefkes Jutta Bruhn
Catherine Vaudour Gunnel Holmér Ingeborg Krueger Wendy Evans Anne Vanlatum

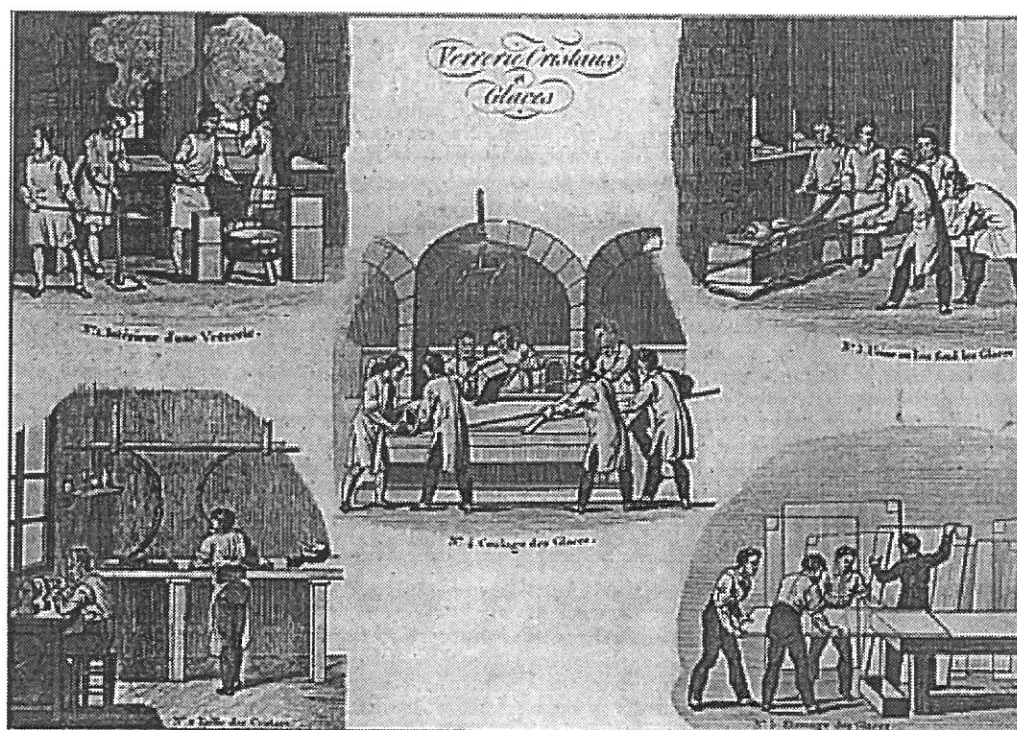
A new initiative of the board is to set up a working group to form an English thesaurus of glass terms. The new Chairman will look into this. It would be good if participants could all be linked to the Internet.

**Treasurer's Report 1995 by Margrit Bauer
(outgoing Secretary)**

Subvention	DM	606,13
Expenses		<u>380,00</u>
		226,13
Previous balance		<u>824,20</u>
New balance	DM	1,050,33
(as of Sept. 95)		

**Next ICOM Glass Committee Meeting 1996 is being held in
Berlin and Dresden from September 1-6, 1996.**

Further information and preliminary program will be provided in the future.



Verrerie Cristaux et Glaces, engraving. Paris, early 19th century, ca. 1825.
Juliette K. and Leonard S. Rakow Library, The Corning Museum of Glass.