

AIHV, ICOM Glass and Community of Glass Associations

Connection between past and future

The materials birth took place about 3000 years ago and marks the beginning of any innovation in the field of glass.

This important event in the past is the root of the modern industry.

Can the past be linked to future? Industrial production has to draw profit and needs research for new products. Looking back seems to contradict this requirement.

Ancient glassworkers couldn't use a sophisticated equipment to produce their objects. This simplicity may hide news for innovation in times of saving power, energy and raw materials.

The modern glass producing industry and the production centres of machinery for producing glass should not forget their simple roots. Knowing about history can deepen the link between the human being and the material and can produce new ideas for the future.

Without a beginning there is no future.

Glass Museums and the Glass Industry

Quite naturally, glass museums have been established in regions that experienced a concentration of Glass Industry in the past. The Museo del Vetro on the Venetian island of Murano, the Museo dell'Arte Vetraria Altarese in Altare, Italy, the MusVerre in Sars Poteries, France, the Glasmuseum Frauenau in the Bavarian Forest, Germany, are same examples.

Those glass museums are significantly associated with local villages and their impact on the development of their communities. The glass museums revive a past related to an historical factory or relate an important area of glassmaking acting therefore to provide an identity within the cultural and social environment of the local community.

In order to preserve and revalorize it's image in the society, the glass industry should seek to explore new relationships with the social environment of local communities with a tradition within this field, giving special attention to the historical heritage.

How to collaborate?

Our contribution could be focused as a link between the past and the future of this kind of industry and its relationship with its environment and heritage.

As association we can offer any help in distributing knowledge about the history of this fascinating material, we can offer help for exhibitions, catalogues, workshops.

Together we can explore the possibility to organize cultural events on the History of Glass during the main Fairs devoted to Glass Industries and at the same time it would be nice to have contributions on the most recent industrial developments concerning Glass during our Congresses.

On the other hand, in the field of Education, we can work for developing together an educational program for students to improve the knowledge and the use (and re-use) of glass for the younger generations. To develop a culture of glass broadly could help the improvement of the contemporary Glass industry too.

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