


The 10th ABSA Awards
presented by the
Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts
and The Daily Telegraph



Original
works of art
in glass commissioned
by The British Petroleum Company plc 



The Annual Award Scheme for Business Sponsors of the Arts presented by ABSA in association with The Daily Telegraph celebrates its tenth anniversary in 1987. The ABSA Awards are designed to recognise imaginative and effective sponsorship of the arts by commercial organisations in the United Kingdom. Eleven Awards were made to businesses involved in arts sponsorship under the following categories: Best Corporate Programme, Best Single Project, Best First Time Sponsor, Best Youth Sponsorship and Best Commission of New Art in Any Medium. For 1987, a further category, Best Sponsorship of Arts and Disabled People was introduced in direct response to The Attenborough Report on "Arts and Disabled People" and the Carnegie Council and a twelfth Award was made. The ABSA Arts Award, donated by WH Smith & Son Limited, was presented jointly to two arts

organisations making the best use of sponsorship to develop and maintain the quality of their activities.

The Awards themselves, created in glass, were specially commissioned by The British Petroleum Company plc through the Contemporary Applied Arts Commissioning Service, which is funded by Business in the Community.

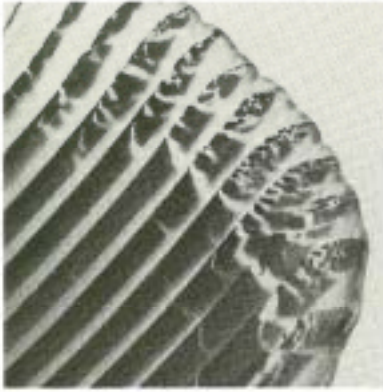
Contemporary Applied Arts, a national association of British craftspeople, arranged for the glass bowls to be made by Brian Blanthorn, David Kaplan and Annica Sandström, Christopher Williams and Rachel Woodman, after British Petroleum had selected their work from the association's extensive membership of craft artists.

The five artists involved were chosen by British Petroleum to exemplify the very best creative talent and technical skill in the field of

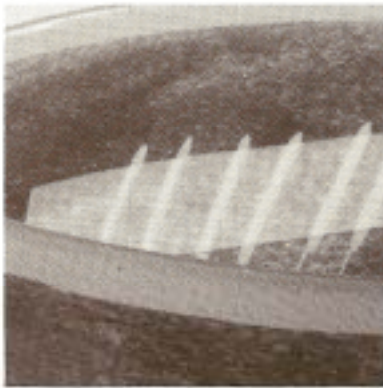
contemporary British studio glass - Britain at its Best.

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Awards, the Ceremony was held, for the first time, in the Victoria & Albert Museum on December 9th 1987. His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales presented the Awards in the Raphael Cartoon Court and in adjacent galleries performing artists entertained the guests before and after the presentation. A commemorative book, published by ABSA in association with The Daily Telegraph recording the first ten years of Award winners with an introductory essay by Colin Tweedy, ABSA's Director, on the history of arts sponsorship in the UK, was launched that evening.

To mark Lord Goodman's outstanding achievements in developing the links between business and the arts, the ABSA Council,



Awards Judges and ABSA Staff asked The Prince of Wales to present Lord Goodman with one of the commissioned bowls. It is hoped in future years to honour the work of other individuals at the Awards Ceremony in this manner.



ABSA appoints an independent panel of judges to read all the nominations and to select the Award winners. The panel for 1987 were:

Lord Birkett of Ulverston (Chairman)

*Chairman of Children's Film and Television Foundation
Vice President of the British Board of Film Classification
Adviser to the South Bank Board
Chairman of Theatres Advisory Council*

Tim Bell

*Group Chief Executive of Lawes Howard-Spink & Bell plc
Governor of the British Film Institute
Chairman of Charity Projects*

Carmen Callil

*Managing Director of Chatto & Windus and Hogarth
Press Ltd
Founder and Chairman of Virago Press
Member of the Board of Channel 4 Television*

John Drummond

*Controller, BBC Radio 3
Chairman of the National Dance Co-ordinating
Committee, Arts Council of Great Britain
Director of Edinburgh Festival (1978-83)*

Pamela, Lady Harlech

*Director of the South Bank Board
Trustee of the Victoria & Albert Museum
Member of the Arts Council of Great Britain
Chairman of the Women's Playhouse Trust*

Mathew Prichard

*Chairman, Booker Authors Division and Agatha
Christie Ltd
Chairman, Welsh Arts Council
Member of the Arts Council of Great Britain
Advisory Local Director of Barclays Bank plc, South Wales*



*The Awards were presented by
HRH The Prince of Wales accompanied by
HRH The Princess of Wales.*





From Simon Hornby
Chairman

16 December 1987

WHSMITH

W.H. Smith & Son Limited
Strand House
7 Holbein Place
London SW1W 8NR

Telephone: 01-730 1200
Telex: 887777 WHS G

Brian Blanthorn Esq BA MA RCA
Glass Studio
Thorpe Hall
Thorpe Road
Peterborough
Cambridgeshire

Dear Mr Blanthorn

I am just writing to say how thrilled we were to receive the beautiful glass dish which you made. We are looking for a good place to show it off in its full glory.

*Yours sincerely
Simon Hornby*