

ISSUE 69

# CADUCEUS

HEALING FOR PEOPLE, COMMUNITY AND PLANET



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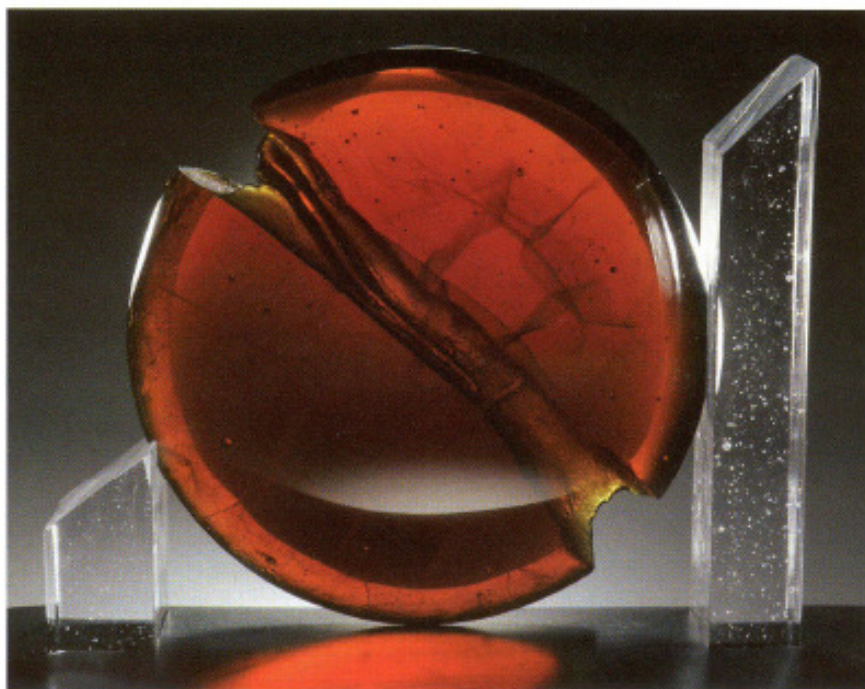
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## British Glass Biennale 2006



Caption: 'Transition' by Sue Nixon, an artist exhibiting in the Biennale. Photo: Simon Bruntnell.

The opening ceremony of the brightest and most important show of contemporary glass in the UK took place on 24th August at the Ruskin Glass Centre, Stourbridge. Featuring 175 works by 101 artists, all British-based, the Biennale is open until September 17th and again highlights the extraordinary diversity and

imagination of makers exploring the hundreds of ways glass can be manipulated, moulded and coloured to create tiny beads or vast sculptures.

The opportunity to showcase work in an internationally acclaimed selling exhibition is one major draw, but there are also two £5,000 prizes, one award for 'best in show' and a second for a

collaborative piece by two makers working together. Hannah Kippax, who won in 2004, shot to fame in the glass collecting world, with a flurry of commissions in the UK and abroad.

The show was opened by Dr David Prytherch, Chair of the distinguished jury panel. His foreword in the Biennale catalogue describes the intense, 2-day 'marathon of animated debate' as the jury grappled with the difficulty of selecting work from over 200 artists' superb submissions.

The exhibition is brilliantly curated by London-based designer, Candice-Elena Evans, who had the complex task of making 175 diverse pieces of glass work together as a show in a large, atmospheric 'barn' of a glasshouse. During the 4-day International Festival of Glass, which ended on August 28th, she led 'new collectors' sessions giving practical tips and insights and providing confidence and encouragement to start a glass collection.

The British Glass Biennale is a landmark show for glass in this country in its scale and ambition. The exhibition and the full-colour catalogue establishes the willingness of studio makers to experiment, innovate and push boundaries in an ever-more exciting way.

For full details, see [www.ifg.org.uk/biennale.html](http://www.ifg.org.uk/biennale.html) or ring 01384 399444 or the curator, Candice Elena-Evans on 07836 280938.

### Join the j-a-m

A dynamic new campaign to create personal peace in an ever-increasing global climate of chaos and change is being launched at Wembley Arena on Sunday, 17th September. Entitled 'just-a-minute' (j-a-m), the initiative introduces regular, one-minute periods of silence into people's lives, however stressed.

Organised by the Brahma Kumaris, a global, women-led spiritual organisation, the just-a-minute campaign includes multi-media tools such as one-minute, spoken meditations to download onto computers or podcast, a creative viral campaign, events in major cities across the world, including Rio, Moscow, Sydney, Johannesburg and Madrid; plus a simultaneous, one-minute wave of peace at 4.25pm on 17th September to be linked live on the Internet to over 100 countries.

The positive effects of meditation on our health and well-being are well-

known and well-documented. Meditation is now offered in schools, hospitals, offices, government buildings and prisons to help people relax, slow down and refresh the mind. Increasingly, doctors are recommending meditation for patients with chronic problems such as heart conditions, AIDS and cancer, as well as depression, hyperactivity and ADD (attention deficit disorder). Just-a-minute is about helping people to incorporate meditation into their busy schedules.

The campaign also incorporates video clips from influential personalities, leaders and community heroes, including the Chief Rabbi, Sir Jonathan Sacks, neuro-psychiatrist Sir Peter Fenwick and Lord Navnit Dholakia, sharing their personal stories of the impact of moments of silent reflection on their lives, to be featured in a just-a-minute DVD and website.

The Wembley launch event stars Robin Gibb of the Bee Gees alongside comedienne Ruby Wax; actor and pro-

ducer Clarke Peters, TV presenter Tania Bryer and top comedienne from the Netherlands, Lenette van Dongen. Author and PR guru Lynne Franks will be explaining the concept of just-a-minute to the audience. There will be music from recording artists Bliss and Michael Timothy, formerly of Massive Attack, percussionists David Jones and Ade Sose Wallace, Muslim female band, The Ulfah Collective, and the Zamar Gospel Choir. The show also features full production, song and dance numbers representing the power of silence – the pause between notes, movement and speech.

The audience will also experience the love, peace and wisdom of two remarkable women yogis who lead the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University ([www.bkwsu.org](http://www.bkwsu.org)) and who between them have the combined power of nearly 150 years of meditation. Now in their senior years, Dadi Janki and Dadi Gulzar, who had no formal education and who set aside the

constraints of social convention in their homeland of India to become renowned world spiritual leaders, will be making a special appearance together on the international stage.

Hundreds of thousands around the world will join in virtually on 17th September via the Internet. The whole event will be webcast live at [www.just-a-minute.org](http://www.just-a-minute.org) and, wherever they are in the world, people can link up for the one-minute wave of peace by registering on the just-a-minute website, enabling their locations to light up on a vast world map visible at Wembley Arena.

The just-a-minute launch event is dedicated to the UN International Day of Peace (see page 4) and celebrates 70 years of Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University.

*For further information: [www.just-a-minute.org](http://www.just-a-minute.org) or call 020 8955 1945. The Wembley event is free to the public. To book tickets visit: [www.just-a-minute.org](http://www.just-a-minute.org) or call 020 8902 4141. The event will be webcast live at: [www.just-a-minute.org](http://www.just-a-minute.org). j-a-m's light-hearted animation illustrating the benefits of meditation can be seen at [www.just-a-minute.org/movie.html](http://www.just-a-minute.org/movie.html).*

## The Child of Europe

### A Kaspar Hauser Festival

**B**orn a prince, in solitary confinement for 12 years, assassinated at 21, Kaspar Hauser still speaks to us today of a vision of Europe that would transform humanity. Rudolf Steiner has singled him out as a figure of unmatched spiritual importance for the modern age – why?

The Crown prince of Baden was abducted, aged one month, and incarcerated to prevent him from fulfilling his historic destiny of creating a healthy, social heart centre for Europe. After his release, aged 15, he lived in Nuremberg where, 100 years later, the voice of evil resounded at giant Nazi Party rallies. Indeed, his assassination in 1833 has been linked to the rise of Hitler. But during the five years of his life in society, through his own efforts and the sheer character of those around him, Kaspar Hauser was able to realize the highest qualities of the human spirit in himself and in others. For some, he is an example of how to overcome a handicap; for others, his life points to a better image of a future Europe; for yet others, he is a good, historical thriller. In the midst of malevolent, social and political forces, how

can we each find our identity as free individuals? An interest in the life of Kaspar Hauser can help us find an answer.

*The Festival, from 29th September – 1st October, is at The Glasshouse, Wollaston Road, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 4HF. Tel: 01384 399458; [www.gbc.rmet.org.uk](http://www.gbc.rmet.org.uk).*

## Amma to visit London



A couple receiving Amma's embrace (darshan) during her European tour last year.

**W**ho is Amma? Her name is Mata Amritanandamayi, but millions over the world know her as Amma (the Indian word for mother), the mother of love and compassion.

Through her simple and powerful message of love, she teaches that loving and caring for others is the key to a happy and meaningful life.

She is the inspiration and driving force behind a huge network of charitable activities that take place under her guidance. In India, these take the form of housing, schools and colleges of higher education, hospitals, orphanages and pensions for widows. In the US there is a network of 'Mothers Kitchens', feeding the homeless; and all over the world, thousands of people inspired by Amma are experiencing the joy of selfless service.

After the tsunami disaster in south-east Asia, Amma responded with massive rehabilitation projects in India and Sri Lanka.

All work carried out by Amma's organization is done by volunteers, thereby ensuring that every penny donated reaches those in need. Amma has received numerous awards for her work worldwide, many of them from

the UN, for whom she has been invited to speak on several occasions.

Amma's love and compassion go beyond the boundaries of culture and religious traditions. She travels the world for eight months of the year, offering an individual hug, her darshan, to each person who comes to her for emotional relief and spiritual guidance. The number of people who have received Amma's embrace is estimated at 24 million. Everyone, regardless of religion or background, is invited to come to meet her at Crystal Palace from 10th–12th October, during her free, 3-day programme in the UK.

*More details: visit [www.amma.org.uk](http://www.amma.org.uk) or [www.amritapuri.org](http://www.amritapuri.org) or ring 020/ 6036868 (6–9pm only).*

## BBC to feature John of God

**T**he Brazilian healer, John of God, is to be featured in a BBC2 documentary this autumn, possibly October.

Casa De Dom Inacio, his healing centre and 'Spiritual Hospital', is located in the rural village of Abadiania and sits on reportedly the largest crystal plateau in the world. Anita Fuller, who organizes guided trips for potential patients, says that John of God was guided to build his sanctuary here by the spirit entities that work through him, as such a large mass of crystal forms a powerful base for transformative healing energies and accelerates and intensifies the deep healing processes that he has worked with for over 45 years.

With a background as a poor farmer, she describes him as a big, strong and simple man with an indomitable spirit and strong faith in God and his given mission, who insists, 'It is not I, but God that heals.'

Anita comments: 'There are places on this planet that are natural and powerful gateways to higher realms that act as catalysts for transformation, cleansing and healing to take place. These places gather intense and powerful healing energies that provide healing that may otherwise be more difficult. I really do feel that Casa de Dom Inacio is one of these gateways. The universal source of energy is everywhere but in such places intensified and magnified.'

*For more details about trips to visit John of God and Anita's own personal experience of healing, see [www.spiritualexplorers.co.uk](http://www.spiritualexplorers.co.uk) or ring 07949 916170.*