



KEITH ROWE
photo Graham McCarter

TO SEE A WORLD IN A GRAIN OF SAND

KEITH ROWE MAKES GLASS

Keith Rowe's name as an Australian art glass maker has been wellknown for decades. And yet he seems to be something of a recluse. His home is in Blackheath in the Blue Mountains. Like potter Peter Rushforth who also lived and worked here, at 'Le Var', there have been times when Rowe's glass has been seen to reflect the colours and the mood, even the substance of this wild and dramatic place.

David Middlebrook has described Rowe as 'the great Australian glass artist of our time' with his exhibition this year entitled Terrestrial. It is a privilege to be able to share the fruits of a long life of work created in fire.



*To see a World in a Grain of Sand / And a Heaven in a Wild
Flower / Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand /
And Eternity in an hour (William Blake)*

Kamensk, blown glass, 17cm x 4.5cm, 2015



Kamensk, blown glass, 17cm x 4.5cm, 2015



Sunrise, blown glass, 18.5cm x 26cm, 2015

An artist in maturity has a wealth of experience and knowledge to draw on and Rowe like many artist veterans has now confidently added to the mix 'chance' or 'serendipity'. For the impressive Terrestrial works—still familiar in their weight and shape and clean perfection—Rowe has added colour. Glass powders are thrown onto the surface and these colourful pigments add a magical imagery.

The 'rich and unique surface decoration is born out of Keith's philosophy that 'colour is everything', says Middlebrook. 'Colour relationships, form, a reaction to life and concepts of personal experience, all influence his work practice and allow a uniqueness of vision that has created this spectacular new series of work.'

*These are the treasures for us to behold and enjoy,
do not take them for granted.*

Keith Rowe writes:

Terrestrial—Bound to and upon this rock circling the sun, a singular vessel, our only means of survival.

From the depth of its oceans to the tops of its mountains, there is a limit to our existence....

Throughout its time there have been many attempts by natural and extra-terrestrial forces to destroy all life.

With the many violent collisions scars remain, giving us a habitation of beauty and awe.

It is hard to imagine that we will not always be here, in fact we believe we will always be here.

These are the treasures for us to behold and enjoy, do not take them for granted.

Creatures of Deep, blown glass, 17.5cm x 29cm, 2015



Sunrise, blown glass, 18.5cm x 26cm, 2015

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Photos of works Graeme Wienand