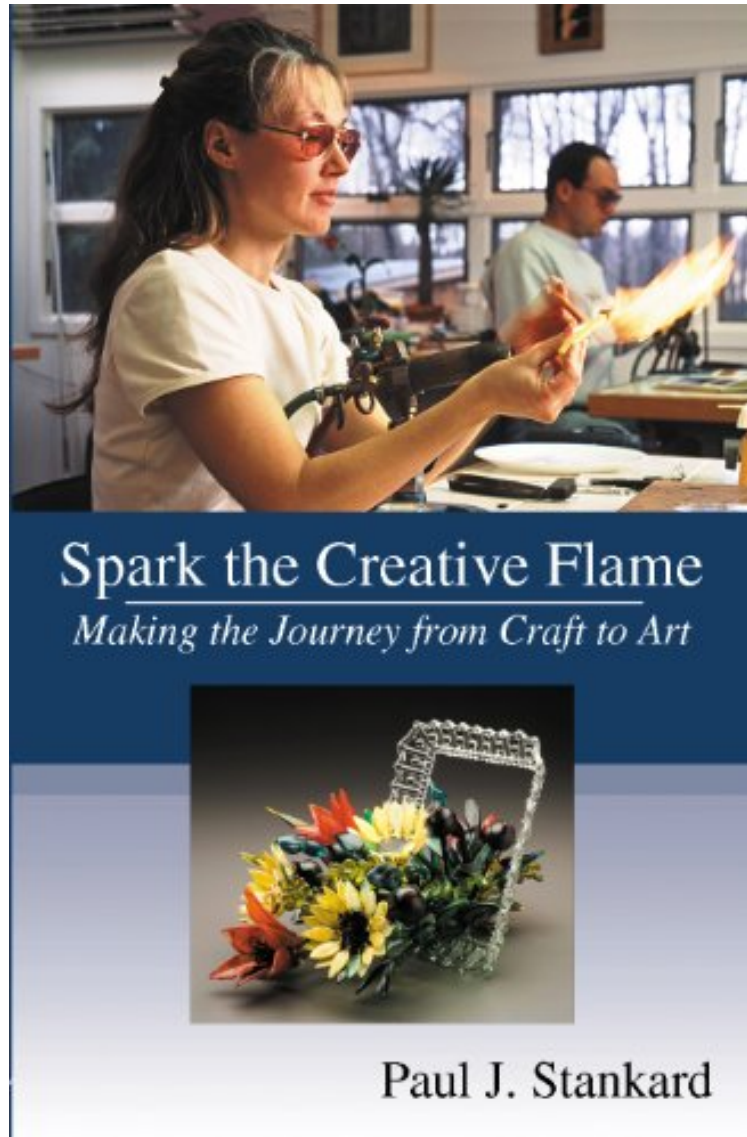


[Library ebook] Spark the Creative Flame: Making the Journey from Craft to Art

Spark the Creative Flame: Making the Journey from Craft to Art

Paul J. Stankard (compiler and primary author)
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Paul J. Stankard (compiler and primary author) : Spark the Creative Flame: Making the Journey from Craft to Art before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Spark the Creative Flame: Making the Journey from Craft to Art:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great Overview of Flameworked GlassBy PickledkittyWell written overview of the history and important players in melting glass to create Art with an emphasis on lampwork/ framework/ torchworked glass (they are all the same thing). Paul goes over a working day in the life of a succesful

Artist and how it is imperative to fail when creating Art. Without failure there is no learning, and success as an artist comes from a dedicated time schedule just like a 9-5 job. Even more than a 9-5, once you are done for the day, you come home to research the history of the medium, brain storm new ideas, and learn about what others in your field are up to. He also offers an "Overview of the last 50+ years of Glass Art" class via conference calls, where he invites many of the artists from his book to speak with the students. It was an amazing class and an amazing opportunity to speak with fellow glass artists with many years under their belts. There are no tutorials on how to make this or that glass item in this book, but if you are interested in flamework, or do it yourself, you will not regret the learning to be had from this book. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Inspirational Informative By Michael Art occurs when something common becomes singular. This book delves into the process on how these particular artists broke through the obstacles of complacency and presented their vision of beauty in the medium of glass. Along the way, the author is always encouraging, while also forewarning that the process is not easy, especially so when it comes to glass. Overtime you can learn the skill sets; which are considerable. But to make something beautiful, you have to know what beauty is... This is Paul Stankard's gospel and it tough to argue against someone who has truly walked the walk. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Universal Primer for Modern Craft By Dick Kelly I am a woodturner and carver. I appreciate Paul's role as a teacher, as well as a master of his craft. I have Paul's Spark the Creative Flame Making the Journey from Craft to Art and I'm trying to memorize the commissioned essays by Bruce Metcalf and Burton Wasserman. Paul's personal story and all the other well selected material makes this book a universal primer for any maker dedicated to modern craft, whatever the medium.

Spark the Creative Flame is a resource that strives to inform, inspire, and motivate all who work in craft, whatever the medium, and wish to improve the creative expression of their work, whether via college-level or other formal art and craft programs or self-directed learning. While the book features flameworked glass and a selection of the leading artisans who do this work, the insights and recommendations presented herein transcend material and speak to broader issues relevant to all creative craftspeople. This work was compiled, and most of it was written, by Paul Stankard, an internationally acclaimed artist and pioneer in the studio glass movement. Paul's training in scientific glassblowing and employment in industrial scientific glass during the 1960s allowed him to master his craft before committing himself to life on the creative side. His successful transition from industry to studio art is due in large part to his need to be creative and his incessant pursuit of excellence in artistic expression. Spark the Creative Flame is made up of three parts, presented in engaging and accessible language. The first section consists of three essays by scholar-artists that provide essential context for the book by considering the recent history of craft; the relationships among craft, design, and art; and the many facets of beauty. Section two presents a personal retrospective on the 50-year career of internationally acclaimed artist Paul J. Stankard. A pioneer in the Studio Glass Movement, Stankard is considered a living master in the art of floral paperweight making. The third section provides overviews of the careers of twelve highly regarded contemporary glass artists. Collectively, the reader is presented with insightful perspectives on the aspirations, strategies, challenges, and accomplishments of a representative sample of internationally respected flameworking artists.

In his long journey from laboratory glassmaker to master glass artist, Paul Stankard never lost his wide-eyed wonder at the improbability of it all that a young man with a severe learning disability (he wrote about his dyslexia with bracing honesty in great detail in his 2007 memoir *No Green Berries or Leaves*) would not only graduate from school but go on to make a body of work worthy of museum exhibitions and international acclaim. This sense of wonder permeates Stankard's latest book, an overflowing compendium of what he's learned and is anxious to share to others (in his epilogue, he says this is the book he wished he had been able to read when he was just starting out). For this 200-page-plus hardcover tome with color plates, he commissioned essays from jeweler Bruce Metcalf, art professor Burton Wasserman, and artist Judith Schaechter; wrote appreciations of 12 flameworkers at various levels of renown (full disclosure: two of the artist essays were adapted for feature articles in *GLASS*); and shared his daily rituals in the studio so that others might gain insight into his approach to making work. The book casts a wide net, bringing differing perspectives on art from his essayists together with profiles of artists who have vastly different approaches to working with the torch. Written in an engaging voice informed by warmth, wisdom, and respect, Stankard sets out to educate, share, and elevate the field and succeeds on all counts. *Glass Quarterly* Spring, 2014: 20; review by Andrew Page --*Glass Quarterly*, Spring 2014 Spark the Creative Flame packs a big punch for a relatively compact volume but perhaps that's no surprise, considering its author. Glass artist and ACC fellow Paul Stankard is known for his stunningly realistic botanical orbs, teeming with meticulously detailed flora. For this book intended as a resource for all (though of special interest to glass artists), Stankard has assembled a work as bountiful as his art, including a section of essays by Judith Schaechter, Bruce Metcalf, and Burton Wasserman. Another section covers Stankard's career of five decades, reflecting on his experiences and artistic philosophy. A final and wonderful section features artist appreciations, in which Stankard writes with wisdom and affection about 12 other makers. Julie K Hanus, *American Craft Magazine*, June/ July 2014. --*American Craft Magazine*, July 2014 From the Inside Flap Spark the

Creative Flame is a resource that strives to inform, inspire, and motivate all who work in craft and wish to improve the creative expression of their work. While the book features flameworked glass and a selection of the leading artisans who do this work, the insights and recommendations presented transcend material and speak to broader issues relevant to all creative craftspeople. Spark the Creative Flame is made up of three parts, presented in engaging and accessible language. The first section consists of three essays by scholar-artists that provide essential context for the book by considering the recent history of craft; the relationships among craft, design, and art; and the many facets of beauty. Section two presents a personal retrospective on the 50-year career of internationally acclaimed artist Paul J. Stankard. A pioneer in the Studio Glass Movement, Stankard is considered a living master in the art of floral paperweight making. The third section provides overviews of the careers of twelve highly regarded contemporary glass artists. Collectively, the reader is presented with insightful perspectives on the aspirations, strategies, challenges, and accomplishments of a representative sample of internationally respected flameworking artists.

About the Author Paul Stankard was born in North Attleboro, Massachusetts, in 1943. He moved to southern New Jersey in 1959. Paul attended Salem Community College then known as the Salem County Vocational and Technical Institute from 1961 to 1963. He is the recipient of two honorary doctorate degrees and an honorary associates degree. He has lived and worked as a full-time studio artist since 1972. Paul is an internationally acclaimed artist and pioneer in the studio glass movement. He is considered a living master in the art of the paperweight, and his work is represented in more than 60 museums around the world. He is a Fellow of the American Craft Council and a recipient of the UrbanGlass Award Innovation in a Glassworking Technique. His life is more fully described in his autobiography *No Green Berries or Leaves: The Creative Journey of an Artist in Glass*.