

# Vitreus Art

Affordable stained glass art, gifts and mirrors

## About Vitreus Art

Vitreus Art is run by Jenny Timms & Mike Caddy.

We began making decorative and functional stained glass art a year ago, and discovered that other people liked what we were doing.

Our pieces are owned by people who want their art to have a changing, dynamic quality. The way the glass responds to different lighting conditions means your piece will often give you something new or unexpected...

As well as making the designs you can see on our website, we specialise in creating specially commissioned unique and personal stained glass gifts. These can be totally original and unique pieces of yours or our design, or adaptations of designs we've already made.

## The glass we use

Although it's fashionable to use very costly hand-made glass, some beautiful effects can be achieved using machine-made or hand-finished glass, at a much lower cost for a finished piece.

Among the types of glass we use, you'll find Spectrum waterglass for vibrant hot colours; Kokomo cathedral glass for texture and richness, often with bubbles (called 'seeds'); Spectrum baroque glass, Kokomo iridescent glass (which has an oily shine which changes with the light) and fantastic streaky glass from a selection of manufacturers.

We use the Tiffany method primarily, with copper foil and solder, because it results in a piece with finer lines between adjacent sections of glass. For our domestically sized pieces, this gives a lighter and finer appearance.

The glass is cut with a traditional glass cutter (itself something of an art as glass likes to do its own thing when being scored), and the edges are ground smooth. The sections of glass are wrapped in copper foil and soldered into the final piece. We polish the solder, or apply a chemical patina to give a copper or lead-black look.

## **Jenny**

Jenny creates most of our designs, having first discovered her interest in light and colour while at Art College.

After raising a family, she now has the time (and energy) to experiment with glass and its unique ability to bring colour into the home or workplace.

Jenny is influenced by a range of artistic and natural themes, ranging from the Cubist and De Stijl movements of the early 1900s to abstract expressions and natural or man-made landscapes.

Jenny is currently experimenting with new lead-free solder techniques, and combinations of glass, metal and wood to make larger pieces possible.

## **Mike**

Mike is a marketer by profession. After working in a number of technology-related industries, the opportunity to develop a more visually creative interest began when he and Jenny saw examples of modern stained glass at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral.

Mike's pieces often have an abstract feel, exploiting colour and texture rather than being based on figurative or descriptive designs.

Mike also designed and maintains the Vitreus Art website, as well as photographing new pieces.

## **The Future**

Our intention is to develop larger and more monumental pieces that will form real talking points in homes and workplaces. These pieces could include wood, metal, recovered, recycled or junk materials as well as stained glass.

Another direction we are particularly keen to explore is the combination of subtle lighting effects with stained glass pieces to create unique pieces of light sculpture that will be exciting to look at, day or night.

## **Contact Vitreus Art**

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