

# HOSTLER BURROWS

## **BJØRN FRIBORG**

b. 1983, Denmark

Bjørn Friberg is well-regarded for his glass sculptures which embody the energy and techniques of the hot shop and its kilns. Friberg considers his blown-glass artworks as “sculptures of a process.” Indeed, his series of dramatic monolithic ovals titled *Implosion* embodies the dynamics of kinetic energy in action. Each piece represents a split-second collapse, frozen in the instant when the supporting force of air inside the molten orb caves beneath the external pressure of poured glass. In this moment of rupture, exterior and interior are revealed and transgressed; the work folds in on itself. The end result retains stray drips and strings of glass that compose chance line drawings along the inner walls or hang suspended in the interior cavity. Similarly, the collapsed openings capture the moment of impact, not unlike a photograph of a high-speed ballistics test or the seconds after a boxing glove connects in the ring. Friberg brings the physicality of the glassmaking process to the fore, intensifying it through contrasting hues of different glass colors mingling. Once flame-polished and removed from the punty, the sculptures possess a formal complexity, solid reminders of the balance of creative and destructive impulses and the adrenaline rush so often experienced in glass production.

Friberg’s approach comes out of years of expertise as a practitioner and instructor in glass production. He currently manages the hot shop at Holmegaard Værk Glaskunst, Denmark’s leading glass factory. Friberg received a BFA from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts’ School of Architecture, Design, and Conservation after studying in Sweden at the Åfors Glasbruk, V.I. Mästare Ingvar Carlsson “Kalle Pack,” and the Kosta Glass School. His work has been exhibited throughout Scandinavia and internationally.

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## **EDUCATION**

- 2013 BFA, The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts Schools of Architecture, Design and Conservation  
2009 Åfors Glasbruk, V.I Mästare Ingvar Carlsson “Kalle Pack”  
2006 Kosta Glascenter, Kosta, Sweden

## **SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

- 2023 *Imploded*, HB381, New York, NY  
2020 *Implosion*, Galeri Montan, Copenhagen, Denmark

## **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2023 *Generation Glas*, Cfhill, Stockholm, Sweden  
*In the Making*, Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Ebeltoft, Denmark  
2022 *Pop-Up Glass*, Galleri Montan x RVNHus, Kolding, Denmark  
*The Shape of Colours*, Galleri Montan, Copenhagen, Denmark  
2021 *Art in Glass, Glass in Art*, Galleri Montan, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Forces, Matter*, House of Craft, Nexø, Denmark  
*Matter at Hand: Ten Artists in Denmark*, Hostler Burrows, New York, NY  
*Matter at Hand: Ten Artists in Denmark*, Hostler Burrows LA, Los Angeles, CA  
2020 *Late Summer*, Galleri Montan, Copenhagen, Denmark  
2019 *British Glass Biennale*, Boda Builders, Amblecote, UK  
2018 *Abstracts and Narratives*, Bo Knutsson, Stockholm, Sweden  
*Kraft (Force)*, Galleri Jeanette Ölund, Borås, Sweden  
*Ung Svensk Form 2018 (Young Swedish Design 2018)*, Swedish/International, ArkDes, Stockholm, Sweden  
Harbour Front Centre, Toronto, Canada  
Vessel Gallery, London, UK  
2017 *Glassyke, S12*, Bergen, Norway  
*Scandinavian Glass: Starting All Over*, Helsinki, Finland  
*Young Glass 2017*, Danish/International, Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Denmark  
2016 *Värk (Work)*, The Glassery, Stockholm, Sweden