

GLOBAL HEAT

Summer 2009



Robert
Comploj



Leni Bille



Glassblowers let the material decide for a change

Hundreds of kilo of wood and more than 30 unique mouth blown glass sculptures in friendly round shapes and all the colours of the rainbow. Those are the building blocks for the art installation titled "Global Heat", that glassblowers Leni Bille and Robert Comploj from Saebj Gaspusteri present at this years summer exhibition by the local arts society The Saebj Artists.

As the title suggests global climate problems have been an indirect inspiration for the work. But the glassblowers' version of global warming contains more optimistic perspectives than the one threatening to melt the poles, flood the land and extinguish species. Heat is a precondition for any kind of glassblowing, and as the on-going

collaboration between the Danish and Austrian glassblower shows, the crafts practitioners are internationally oriented in their work.

"Global Heat" uses the cut trees as pedestals for new glass shapes. The order of nature, where some things vanishes while others evolve, has been a mantra in the glass studio while blowing the many sculptures. Some attempts ended as broken pieces on the floor of the workshop, while others grew in new and unplanned directions due to the temperamental tendencies of the material.

- Usually we're focused on creating preplanned shapes, and we do our very best to keep it from flowing out

of control and balance. It's a whole new experience to let the glass decide and have it's will, says Robert Comploj.

Leni Bille agrees:

- It's been great fun to work with since it's very free compared to our usual projects. But we didn't realise how hard it would be to drag all that wood to the top floor of the old castle, where the exhibition is held. Thankfully it's now in place, tells Leni Bille.

The result can be seen at the Saebj Artists exhibition at the Manor Saebjgaard all through August.