Pentagram Stiftung

Pentagram Stiftung is a Swiss private Foundation established in 2011, based in Chur, Switzerland, whose mission is to study and promote art and design that feature glass as their main medium in the 20th and 21st centuries. Pentagram Stiftung aims to reappraise the importance of glass, especially in the art and history of Venice, as well as that of high-standard and innovative glass-making in the contemporary art and design worlds.

In 2012 Pentagram Stiftung launched Le Stanze del Vetro, a long-term joint initiative with Fondazione Giorgio Cini, on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore in Venice.

A further activity of Pentagram Stiftung is to help promote the work of contemporary glass-makers when funds are insufficient for institutions to show their work adequately. For instance, it has helped "In Grimani: Ritsue Mishima Glass Works" (May 30th –September 29th, 2013), a collateral event of the 55th Venice Art Biennale, in the Museum of Palazzo Grimani. Japanese artist Ritsue Mishima finds unique opportunities to create elaborate pieces using the techniques that the Murano glass masters have handed down through the centuries.

Another case in point is that of "Osmosi" (May 31st – July 28th, 2013): French designer Emmanuel Babled has designed a collection of furniture, lamps and vases made of glass and marble, and this was shown with the Foundation's help at Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti, Venice, on the occasion of the same Biennale. Another example is that of "700 Snowballs" (June 1st – September 29th, 2013): an installation by Swiss artist Not Vital consisting of 700 glass balls handmade in the Vetreria Pino Signoretto in Murano, and exhibited at the Abbey of the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore in Venice.

