

DALE CHIHULY

Fact Sheet

Artist Dale Chihuly, born in 1941, lives and works in Seattle. He received a B.A. from the University of Washington, an M.S. from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and an M.F.A. from the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). In 1969 he established the glass program at RISD, where he taught full-time for more than a decade. He cofounded Pilchuck Glass School near Stanwood, Washington, in 1971.

His well-known series of works include *Cylinders*, *Baskets*, *Seaforms*, *Persians*, and *Venetians*. By the early 1990s he had begun to mass glass elements together to create large-scale works, placing some outdoors. He embarked on *Chihuly Over Venice*, a two-year project that developed while working in Finland, Ireland, and Mexico and concluded in 1996 in Italy, where his *Chandeliers* were suspended over the canals and piazzas of Venice. In 1999 he mounted *Chihuly in the Light of Jerusalem*, an exhibition of large-scale sculptures at the Citadel in the Old City in Jerusalem. In 2001 he presented his first major glasshouse exhibition at the Garfield Park Conservatory, Chicago. A pedestrian bridge, the *Chihuly Bridge of Glass*, was dedicated and opened to the public in his hometown of Tacoma, Washington in 2002. In 2005 he exhibited at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, near London. His most ambitious exhibition to date opened at the de Young Museum in San Francisco in 2008.

Museum Collections

Chihuly's work is included in more than 200 museum collections worldwide, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Palais du Louvre, and the Corning Museum of Glass. Large Chihuly collections are held by the Tacoma Art Museum and the Oklahoma City Museum of Art.

Exhibitions

Among the many museums in which his work has been exhibited are the Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery, the Louvre's Musée des Arts Décoratifs, the National Gallery of Australia, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

Selected Awards

He has been awarded ten honorary doctoral degrees, a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant, a Fulbright Fellowship, and two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships.

For more information about the artist, please visit www.chihuly.com/chihuly.html