

SHINING ON a string

BRIGHT HANDWOVEN BEADS, INTRICATE SILVERWORK, SPARKLING GEMSTONES, COLOURFUL GLASS AND THE SOFT TEXTURES OF NATURAL FIBRE – THE RECENT AUCKLAND BEADS AWARDS: THE ART OF COSTUME JEWELLERY PRESENTED A VISUAL FEAST OF VARIETY IN TERMS OF DESIGN AND EXECUTION.

BY VICKI JAYNE



First held in 2006 and now an established event on the fashion calendar, the Auckland Beads Awards provide a great opportunity to both showcase and nurture the growing local costume jewellery industry – and this year there was a heap of talent on display.

The 2008 winners were awarded in three categories: Carnival Crystal, Glass from the Past and Anything Goes, which helped to highlight the huge variety of materials and influences that contributed to the finished pieces.

Taking out the Carnival Crystal Award was Penelope Read's "Sparkling Pompoms" – a brightly coloured necklace featuring a mix of fabric and beading that reflects not only its creator's background in fabric arts but her knowledge and interest in tribal art.

After arriving in New Zealand in 1974, Penelope Read pursued various professions, supplementing her day-time job with quilt making. Two New Zealand Craft Council grants enabled her to study African street art, the history of Pacific barkcloth and the techniques of various British textile artists. Her tribal-inspired collages are sold through galleries and by commission and she has also been involved in setting up a Pacific Craft shop. Since then Read has been working for an auction house identifying ethnic art and antique textiles and only makes objects as a hobby. She has an ongoing interest with tribal art and textiles.

Highly commended in the same category was a very different piece designed by Anya Godwin – "Passionate Kiss", a beautifully executed mask of woven beads strongly themed in black and red. While Godwin experiments with many different media to create her jewellery, she says her true passion and expertise is in hand beadweaving. Her work incorporates a high level of technical detail and she is greatly influenced by the historic traditions of beadwork.

The name of her business, Taliswoman Originals, reflects her love for creating beauty and bringing beads into sacred form. Godwin works as an expressive therapist and lives with her husband and daughter in Auckland.

The Glass From the Past category was won by Deborah Smith with a necklace entitled "Ragtime" – an elegant, classical piece in pure white. Smith, who is studio manager of Beads Glorious Beads in Kingsland, Auckland is currently exploring the drape and fall that beadweaving with small beads gives a piece of jewellery. She has been crafting jewellery and beaded accessories since 1997 and working with jeweller Catherine Clifford has, she says, nurtured her love of fine pieces and the joy of using beautiful materials. She works designing, restoring and remodelling pearl and beaded jewellery and her more organic work uses paua, natural fibres, beads and wire.

Glass from the Past runner-up was again Anya Godwin with a piece entitled "Elizabeth 17thC-2008" – a very regal looking and beautifully crafted necklace.

The third category, Anything Goes, was won by Mona Townson with a creation called "Celebration Lariat" made from a delicious beadwork combination of greens, blues and purples – reflecting her love of colour, texture and design. Townson has spent many years in the art of beadwork with a particular interest in pieces that use a variety of stitching techniques. She has taught beadwork

AN OPPORTUNITY TO BOTH SHOWCASE AND NURTURE THE GROWING LOCAL COSTUME JEWELLERY INDUSTRY

and embroidery for many years and continues to sell her work in galleries and on commission.

Highly commended in the Anything Goes category was Robyn Kirkpatrick with her New Zealand landscape-inspired piece entitled "East Cape Summer" with its bright flashes of red reminiscent of pohutukawa-fringed headlands. Kirkpatrick has been designing in different fields for many years starting with a kids clothing label in Gisborne. She then moved into creating pieces from recycled timber and working with leather. However, she has now been designing jewellery for several years working mainly in glass, metal and vintage beads – often incorporating fabric and ribbon into her designs. She is currently working with a collective of local artisans in Gisborne.

Auckland Beads – which kicked off the awards two years ago – is very happy with the level and number of award entries. Forty-six entrants were competing for the awards and the exhibition held at Compendium Gallery last month also included pieces by Auckland Beads personnel; Emma Davis, Virginia Fisher, Linley Main, Kate Mugeridge, Holly Sanford and Lynne Taylor. Awards sponsors included Swarovski International, Menoni Spa, Milano, Italy and Art Clay NZ – distributors of Japanese made Art Clay Silver.



"RAGTIME"



"CELEBRATION LARIAT"

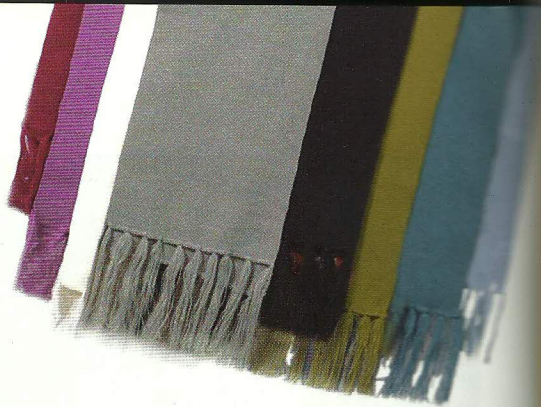
what's hot...



92054 NEW YORK CLOCHE
- BLACK, FIG



73032 GEORGE WOOL CAP
- NAVY, BLACK



6850 ACRYLIC SCARF -
11 COLOURS AVAILABLE



7308 SNOWBOARDER
- KHAKI, CHOCOLATE



92051 DIAMANTE
FEDORA - BLACK (WOOL FELT)



73042 MARLE PEAK BEANIE
- NAVY, KHAKI

6900 NOIR BERET,
LEATHER TRIM -
BLACK WOOLFELT

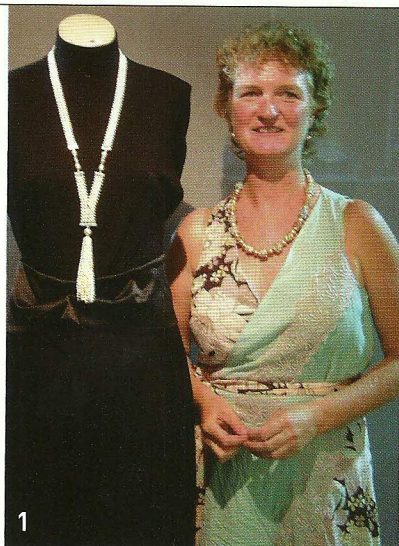


FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT **THE HAT FACTORY**
ON PHONE +64 9 276 1110 OR SEE
www.hatfactory.co.nz

AT THE AUCKLAND BEADS AWARDS

With the work of more than 50 artists on display, the Auckland Beads Awards exhibition held at Compendium Gallery in Auckland last month was a colourful affair. Entitled *The Art of Costume Jewellery*, the awards and accompanying exhibition are now into their third year and attracting a lot of interest from both exhibitors and buyers.

See page 38 for Auckland Beads Awards coverage.



1



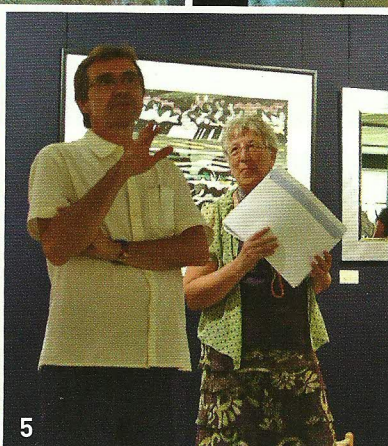
2



3



4



5

1. DEBORAH SMITH - WINNER OF THE GLASS FROM THE PAST AWARD WITH HER CREATION "RAGTIME"
2. PENELOPE READ - WINNER OF THE CARNIVAL CRYSTAL AWARD WITH HER "SPARKLING POMPOMS" PIECE
3. MONA TOWNSON - WINNER OF THE ANYTHING GOES AWARD WITH HER "CELEBRATION LARIAT"
4. DEBORAH SMITH RECEIVING HER AWARD FROM ANNE-MARIE GRACE OF SILVER ART CLAY
5. NORBERT CSATARY AND LINLEY MAIN FROM AUCKLAND BEADS