



FRANCE GRICE  
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**France Grice** enjoyed a long and successful career as an exhibition and interior designer. One of her most well-known projects involved preparing exhibits for the inauguration of the National Gallery of Canada. Her designs for the installation of the plein air sketches by the Group of Seven can still be seen there today. France then went on to work for over twenty years as a commercial interior designer. Her clients included Canada Post, Ernst & Young, and the Government of Canada.

After working for so many years designing physical spaces and organizing objects, a long simmering desire to create found its voice. France began seriously exploring the idea of producing her own artwork in the late 90s; she was especially fascinated by the properties and qualities of glass. At the time, Ottawa did not offer any training in warm glass working (also called kiln-formed glass) so she set about teaching herself. Seeking to develop this newfound passion she bought books, then a kiln, and then learned all she could through practice and experimentation. Now armed with a solid understanding of warm glass working, France further refined her techniques by taking courses at Espace Verre, the renowned Glass school in Montreal, as well as another in mould making and sculpture at the Ottawa School of Art.

Today France works full time as a glass artist in addition to being an active member and past president of the National Capital Network of Sculptors. She has created several distinct bodies of work including figurative and sculptural kiln cast pieces, delicate and whimsical fused glass trees, as well as architectural panels and birdbaths ideal for outdoor gardens or open-air spaces. France also regularly holds workshops in casting for both amateur and professional sculptors in her studio.

**Exhibitions**

- 2017: Installation – The Sesquicentennial Forest – 150 fused glass trees (27" x 40") presented at the Horticultural Building, Lansdowne Park, Ottawa
- 2016-2017: Before the Summer: Juried Art Show, Gananoque, Ontario
- 2015-2019: Various Art Shows around Ottawa, New Art Festival, Baz' Art etc.
- October 2014: "The Three Grices" at St-Brigid Centre of the Arts. Sculptures.
- September 2014: "Dimensions 2014" The annual group show of the National Capital Network of sculptors at St. Brigid Centre for the Arts.
- February 2014: "The Best of the National Capital Network of Sculptors" A sculpture exhibition at the Kanata Civic Gallery.
- September 2013: "Dimensions 2013" A group show at St. Brigid Centre for the Arts.
- January 2013: "The best of the National Capital Network of Sculptors" A group show at the Archives of the City of Ottawa.
- September 2012: The Canadian Glass Show: Westend Gallery Ltd., Victoria, BC.
- September 2012: "Dimensions" juried group show from the National Capital Network of Sculptors.
- November 2012: "Figureworks" Juried exhibition at St. Brigid Centre for the Arts.
- May 2012: Museum of Nature "Nature into Sculpture" National Capital Network of Sculptors turn nature's bounty into stunning works of Art.
- January 2011: Glass under Glass, a glass exhibit at the Royal Botanical Garden in Burlington. 6 outdoor panels, some birdbaths and sculptures.
- September 2011: "Dimensions" juried group show from the National Capital Network of Sculptors.
- July 2011: West End Gallery, Victoria, BC – Eight figurative sculptures to be part of the 2011 Canadian Glass Art Show.
- June 2011: Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, Sculpture Garden – Outdoor panels.
- February 2011: Museum of Nature "Nature into Sculpture" National Capital Network of Sculptors turn nature's bounty into stunning works of Art.
- September 2010: En Verre et Contre Tout" – Montréal Ville de verre, National Monument Theatre, Montréal.
- September 2010: "The Ottawa Sculpture show" St-Brigid's Centre of the Arts, National Capital Network of Sculptor's group show.
- June 2010: Art in the Garden – Kiwi garden, Perth.
- September 2009: "The Ottawa Sculpture show" St-Brigid's Centre of the Arts, National Capital Network of Sculptor's group show.

- October 2009: "Masterworks East" Juried touring exhibition organized by the Ontario Craft Council.
- September 2008: "Rhythm" Juried group show, National Capital Network of Sculptors.
- September 2007: "Encounters" Juried group show, National Capital Network of Sculptors.

### Press & Media

- 2019: Feature Artist, National Capital Network of Sculptors (NCNS) Interview by Mary-Lou Devine: [sculptureottawa.ca](http://sculptureottawa.ca)
- 2017: Online Interview by the Glass Art Association of Canada (GAAC)
- 2015: A Fragile World, CTV Regional Contact segment.
- 2012: The Best of Worldwide Glass Artist, Vol. 2 by Kennedy Publishing.
- 2010: Rogers TV – Celebrate Ottawa (interviews Bastien Martel, France Grice and Tim Desclouds)
- 2009: Ottawa Citizen, House of Light by Sheila Brady.

### Commissions

- Dividers Westport Brewery: 2 sections of 3 fused glass panels to separate specific areas of the public space.
- Fused glass Panels 5 panels to decorate elevator doors (each panel colour specific to the floor use and décor).
- Sculpture  
Glass fountain: 4 glass waves to fit a triangular shape alcove in a private home  
Mahogany Spa, Stittsville ON
- Private Residence Ottawa: Worked with the client and Linda Chapman Architects to create a series of panels depicting the 4 seasons (approximately. 3m x 2m). The renovation won a design award in 2010.
- Private Residence Ottawa: Privacy Fence was created to provide additional seclusion for an outdoor patio. Forged & powder coated steel and glass.

### Collections

- Numerous private collections  
Rideau Woodland Ramble, Merrickville, Ontario  
Don Hoffman  
Warren Estis

**Gallery Representation**

Westend Gallery Ltd., Victoria BC  
Westend Gallery Ltd., Edmonton AB

**Professional Associations**

National Capital Network of Sculptors  
Glass Art Association of Canada  
Ottawa School of Art  
CARFAC

**Previous Employment**

1989-2007      Gansen Lindsay Design - Commercial interior design, project management  
1986-1988      National Gallery of Canada - Exhibit Designer for the Canadian Gallery

**Education**

1983-1986      Algonquin College Interior Design Program

Ottawa School of Art – classes including mould-making; figure modelling; pottery

Espace Verre – Montréal, classes in pâte de verre & cold working