

## Single Line Tourmaline Basket, 2005

By Mark Peiser (1938- ), American  
Cold Stream Cast Glass  
2005.119.3  
G275



*Dimensions: 10" X 21"*

From exhibition catalog:

Since 1967 when Mark Peiser became involved with the Studio Glass Movement he has been recognized for his uniquely individualized approaches and accomplishments. Peiser's continual investigation of the expressive implications of glass properties and processes have led to distinctive bodies of work such as The Opaque Image Vessels, Paperweight Vase Series, The Innerspace Series, The Forms of Consciousness and most recently The Cold Stream Cast Vessels.

Examples of each of these can be found on Peiser's website (referenced below). Peiser lives and works in Penland, NC; he has received numerous honors and awards for his work.



*"I took my first glass class in 1967. The first time I tried to gather molten glass out of the furnace on a blowpipe, it sort of oozed off forming a series of circular loops as it fell and hardened on the floor. I thought, isn't that curious. A year and a half ago, I thought about that again. And I thought about spontaneity. And I thought about making glass objects that really have no precedent. And I thought about having fun."*

- Mark Peiser 2005

After three years of exploring the properties of streaming glass from the bottom of his tap furnace, the Arabesques emerged. The loose, airy structure of modulating lines are as fanciful as they are gravity-defying and rare. The few pieces ultimately completed, exist because of Mark Peiser's intimate understanding of what is happening with the glass and the ability to react in a split second.

MUST SEE to understand:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YwYSm49DPvs>

Video of a cold stream cast bowl being made. Many, many attempts fail and the studio crew is not satisfied with this one in particular. Their language reflects this, so if you use the video in the galleries, the sound will need to be turned off.

*“The cold stream cast pieces seek to reveal and voice the immutable laws that define glass’ structure and creation. By collecting and composing the ongoing sequence of waveforms created as falling glass contacts a surface, a drawing - of sorts – is created which records the unique physical properties of a specific glass at a particular temperature introduced to a unique situation of interaction between maker and material.” – Peiser*

Peiser’s Cold Stream Cast vessels are in galleries across America and sell in the range of \$8,000-\$20,000 each.

#### Vocabulary definitions:

Tourmaline = any of a group of silicate minerals of complex composition, containing boron, aluminum, etc., usually black but having various colored, transparent varieties used as gems.

#### Great Peiser quotes about Cold Stream Casting to use on tours:

*“My inspiration is the dance of molten glass in which I’ve been a partner throughout my career. Now, after nearly 40 years, I’ve come to use glass itself to take the lead.”*

*“When these pieces happen, they happen quickly. You live in the moment.”*

#### Possible Questions:

- How/where would you choose to display this vessel in your own home?
- Please share a word you would use to describe this vessel?

Tour Ideas:

**Modern / Contemporary Art**

**How was it Made?**

**Raise your glass**

(stem cups, roman glass, Mare's Egg, Chihuly, Prutscher Modernism glassware, Baccarat Punch bowl set, Judaica Stained glass window or Prairie School stained glass, a mirror (looking glass), Tanguy "Through...but not through glass", any Native American or African piece using glass beads, Armajani installation with glass walls, etc. )

Additional Cold Stream Cast images, demonstrating the virtuosity of this process:



References:

<http://www.markpeiser.com/>

<http://www.youtube.com/>