



Vase

Not on display

Title/Description: Vase

Born: 1900 c.

Object Type: Vase

Materials: Glass

Technique: Blow moulding

Measurements: h. 210 x w. 110 x w. 110 mm

Inscription: The silver stamped 'sterling'

Accession Number: 21074

Production Place: Austria, Germany

School/Style: Art Nouveau

Credit Line: Donated by Sir Colin and Lady Anderson, 1978

This unsigned Art Nouveau glass vase was possibly manufactured in Austria or Germany around 1900. The vessel has been blow moulded in clear glass to produce a tall, cylindrical form with a flared foot and bowl-shaped neck. Additions of green glass cabochons with trails animate the bowl, and an undulating rim completes the vessel.

Inspired by nature, the green glass trails and cabochons can be compared to slender stems supporting green buds or stylised foliage. The gaffer has worked with one shade of green in the execution of this design.

The Helmet Hentrich Collection in Dusseldorf has two similar examples and attributes production of the vases to the Blumenbach factory [1], also known as the Květná glass factory, Bohemia. [2] However, this attribution can be disputed.

In Stourbridge, England, Stuart & Sons produced a clear glass vase with applied green 'peacock eye trail' decoration, known as 'Cairngorm'. [3] English manufacturers, Stevens & Williams, Thomas Webb, and Richardson also issued this type of design, experimenting with different forms and colour combinations. [4] Bohemian glassworks produced designs that resembled 'Cairngorm', but this glass is said to be comparatively thinner and without a polished pontil. [5]

Vanessa Tothill, February 2021

[1] Penny Johnson and Phillippe Garner, *The Anderson Collection of Art Nouveau* (Norwich, 1980).

[2] <https://www.cervabohemia.com/en/history/> [accessed 28 January 2021];

<https://www.dorotheum.com/en/l/5144809/> [accessed 28 January 2021]

[3]
https://www.20thcenturyglass.com/store/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=275_285_398&products_id=5953 ;
https://www.20thcenturyglass.com/glass_encyclopedia/victorian_glass/stourbridge_glass.htm
[accessed 28 January 2021]

[4] <https://www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/harrach-cairngorm-peacock-vase-420846856> [accessed 28 January 2021]

[5] <http://www.stylendesign.co.uk/guidepages/estoz1.html> [accessed 1 February 2021]

Further Reading

Amaya, Mario, *Art Nouveau* (London: Dutton Vista, 1966)

Couldrey, Vivienne, *The Art of Louis Comfort Tiffany* (London: Quarto Publishing, 1989)

Geitner, Amanda and Emma Hazell, ed., *The Anderson Collection of Art Nouveau* (Norwich: Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, University of East Anglia, 2003)

Greenhalgh, Paul, ed., *Art Nouveau, 1890-1914* (London: V&A Publications, 2000)

Greenhalgh, Paul, ed., *The Nature of Dreams: England and the Formation of Art Nouveau* (Norwich: Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, University of East Anglia, 2020)
