

Tatyana Boyarinova

NEVER GIVE UP AND NEVER SAY NEVER!



By Diane Woodall

Tatyana Boyarinova is a Russian lampwork artist living in Moscow. I say artist because she is so much more than a beadmaker. She loves sculpture, and many of her creations are tiny, realistic sculptures in glass – a true feast for the eyes!

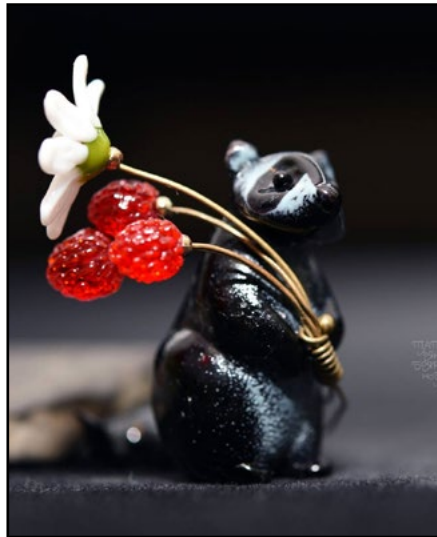
Not surprisingly, Tatyana has formal art training which shows in her work. She earned a degree in Graphic Arts from the Moscow State University of Printing Arts and is a book illustrator. She says that her education in graphic design definitely helps her with her work in glass, and how she

discovered hot glass is an interesting story, “After finishing my art university education in art university, I tried to find an interesting material to work with. I tried many – plastic, felting, seed beads... It was interesting, but not what I wanted. I saw many plastic pieces that people had made to look like glass, and I asked myself, ‘why try to make it appear to be glass when you could just make it out of glass?’ That is when I searched Google and found lampwork! I was so happy to know that one of my childhood dreams of working with glass could be realized!”

To get the training she needed, Tatyana chose the master lampwork artist, Irina Sergeeva, to teach her, but Irina lived in another city, which made it necessary to travel to study with her. It wasn’t an ideal situation, but Irina was such a gifted artist that Tatyana felt it was worth the trip, and her family agreed, “That was 2010 and in that moment, my life was changed forever! It was four days of beginning classes, and it was something truly magical for me.”

“After that, my story is the same as with many of us – I just started working on the torch by myself. Trying. Crying. And trying again and again! And crying again too. It was around six months of working for garbage! But in my opinion, it is the only way to learn! I believe this important phrase is so true: Practice makes perfect! No practice – no result.”

Tatyana also has experience with the retail side of the glass world, landing a job with a lampworking glass shop shortly after she began lampworking, “I know all the numbers for the Italian glass from years of being surrounded by Effetre glass! And not only Effetre, but CiM, Double Helix, TAG,



Precision, Reichenbach, Lauscha, Kugler, and Vetrofond! It was not just a glass shop, but also a studio with five torches. I began working there just as we started to invite foreign glass masters to teach. I helped to organize classes with many great teachers. I’m proud to say that I was an assistant for Davide Penso (mostly making coffee for Maestro, but still exciting). That is when I learned to blow glass! The wonderful and talented artists Astrid Riedel and Irina Sergeeva taught at our studio too. It was very nice to assist my first teacher!”

Her experience working at the glass shop was very rewarding and enjoyable, but she says that after two years of cutting and weighing glass for the shop, she realized she didn't have enough time to work at the torch. It was a tough decision to leave her first job, but she made the move to the Glass Academy Russia studio, "At this studio I teach, work on the torch with my ideas, take part in glass expos, and enjoy every single day! At the studio, I continue to assist with teaching, and I have a great opportunity to learn from amazing glass artists like Mauro Vianello, Ayako Hattori, and Claudia Trimbur-Pagel."

"I teach quite a lot. I like to share my love with people. I like to give them the sensation of feeling joy when they melt glass. It is priceless."

One of the things she enjoys most about her job is being able to teach, "I teach quite a lot. I like to share my love with people. I like to give them the sensation of feeling joy when they melt glass. It is priceless."

As you can see from the photos of Tatyana's work, much of her work appears to be inspired by nature. But it isn't that simple, as her true inspiration comes from so many other things, "I can find my inspiration anywhere! It can be a spot on a wall or stones laid out in an unusual design. I remember the shape and color combination and use it as inspiration for my glass. My night dreams inspire me too and I try not to forget them. But the most inspiring thing for me is people. People that I meet in my life. They support me and make me rise!"

Because so much of Tatyana's work is sculptural, she approaches it like sculpting in any other medium. She enjoys working with shapes, and sculptural work just came naturally for her, "the only difference between working with clay and glass is temperature. When I found glass, I felt I had found MY material, and it allows me to make almost anything! Just light your torch and start trying!"





As much as Tatyana enjoys working with glass, and as brave as she is to try new things, she does not enjoy marketing her work. How many of us can relate to this? It's a lot more fun creating the art than selling the art! She participates in live shows (markets) from time to time, but her most successful selling venues are Facebook and Instagram. Until her account on Instagram was hacked (resulting in her account being lost), she had over 5000 followers! She does have a website where you can see a beautiful selection of her work.

Tatyana has many accomplishments of which she is proud, but perhaps her most impressive accomplishment to date is a personal expo of her work at the [The Museum of Glass Art](#) in St. Petersburg, from March through May, 2017, "My exhibit is called Vita in Vitrum - Life in Glass. It was hard to prepare my exposition. I had no time to live, but I did it and I'm happy of that."





There are wonderful things in store for this most extraordinary artist. One of her dreams is to teach at the Corning museum and to travel to teach and to participate in other glass events. She is currently filling her schedule for 2018, "I'm happy to feel friends' support from all around the world." Cross your fingers that she will be coming to a studio near you soon!

I asked Tatyana if she has any advice for other beadmakers and she said, "Never give up and never say never! Keep dreaming! And you can do it! Wise words from someone who practices what she preaches, never ceasing to practice, learn, and grow."

To see more of Tatyana's work or to contact her:

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