

ALTE VITRIE

L'ARTE DEL VETRO E DINTORNI

✖ The new Alte Vitrie
A come back celebrating 30 years of ISVAV

We salute this new issue of Alte Vitrie with renewed enthusiasm as it also marks thirty years of activity of the ISVAV – Institute for the Study of Glass and its Art -. Besides having radically changed in recent years, modern society presents us with new challenges. We must accept them by promoting development as well as preserving and enhancing old traditions. My appreciation and thanks go to those who through their efforts in different ways have been working for I.S.V.A.V. and for the promotion of the Glass of Altare. I would like to dedicate this new edition to those who founded the Institute and to all the past mayors of Altare who preceded me and had the role of Presidents and Honorary Presidents, i.e. Silvano Oddera, Olga Beltrame, Idalda Brondi and Flavio Genta.

*Davide Berruti,
Mayor of Altare*



The new Alte Vitrie

A come back celebrating 30 years of ISVAV

The Institute for the Study of Glass and its Art, I.S.V.A.V., was created in 1982.

Throughout its thirty years of activity, it has promoted the tradition of glass making of Altare in Italy and abroad. It has also promoted processing glass in strict accordance with the tradition of the glassmakers of Altare. This has been possible through events during which the furnaces of Villa Rosa have been used to show different methods and procedures. It





Next page:
Villa Rosa, home of the
Museo dell'Arte Vetraria
Altarese

On the left:
Gino Bormioli and Elio
Bormioli at work in the
furnace of the museum

Below:
A concert in the garden
of Villa Rosa, home of the
Museum of Art of Altare

Last page:
The garden of Villa Rosa
Oven for blowing glass,
furnace of Villa Rosa

has established new contacts and maintained old ones with museums, institutions, artists and designers both in Italy and abroad thus keeping in touch with new developments and new artistic trends. It has promoted the art of blowing glass by working together with schools and by running special courses, always in full compliance with the tradition of Altare. This has resulted in the promotion of both culture and civil society in the Valley of the Bormida River. The timing of the first issue of the re born *Alte Vitrie* magazine is perfect for wishing prosperity to our Foundation. Happy birthday I.S.V.A.V. !

*Carlo Saggini,
President I.S.V.A.V.*

The Museo dell'Arte Vetraria Altarese has always been, since its creation, an important institution both for the town of Altare, its community and for the history of glass in general. A visit to the Museum is the ideal way to learn about the millenary history of glass, its technical aspects and curios. It takes place in the spectacular

Villa Rosa , i.e. the new home of the Museum and a Liberty Style building dating back to 1906. Its pastel colours and graceful lines accompany the visitors throughout their visits and sometimes overshadow the importance of the exhibits themselves but never fail to leave an indelible memory of the experience. The Museum organises events and exhibitions in a constant effort of self renewal and thorough international experiences with craftsmen, artists and designers and the most important museums of the sector. Nowadays, museums evolve thanks to mutual interaction while confronting themselves with the changes given by a constant changing society. MAV, though always ready to discard its old skin to keep in touch with new developments, has kept always true to its mission, i.e. the promotion of the masterpieces of the great masters of the past, of an ancient craft and of an old tradition deeply rooted in this part of Liguria.

*Giulia Musso,
Curator of the Museo
dell'Arte Vetraria Altarese*





With the first on-line issue of *Alte Vitrie*, the historical magazine of I.S.V.A.V. devoted to the world of glass – with a special attention to the glass production of Altare, i.e. a town where such art enjoys thousands of years of tradition - resumes its activities.

Alte Vitrie is meant to be a tool through which I.S.V.A.V. will comply with its Statute, i.e. the promotion of the culture and tradition of the glass of Altare. The on-line version both in English and in Italian seems to be the most efficient and accessible way to do so. Another objective of the projects of the Board of Directors of I.S.V.A.V. has thus been accomplished.

The publishing of such a prestigious magazine completes the various proposals of the Museo dell'Arte Vetraria Altarese as well as promoting its many recent activities.

The work of the talented writers of *Alte Vitrie* ensure, just like in the past, the contributions of very well-known experts of the sector and famous artists which will not fail to draw the attention and interest of a large section of the public.

Many thanks to the Fondazione De Mari for their unflinching and constant support to our Foundation which has made the re birth of *Alte Vitrie* possible.

Linda Siri,
Curator of the Museo
dell'Arte Vetraria Altarese



Thirty years from its creation, I.S.V.A.V., nowadays, enjoys a consolidated success of public and visibility despite the difficulties due to the general economic crisis and of the artistic glass sector in particular.

In order to ensure that future activities are accomplished, two main lines of actions will have to be closely addressed. First of all, those stated in the Statute, i.e. the historical and scientific study of glass and its art, with special attention to the tradition of Altare, the promotion of local glass production and the relevant

education for young people, the promotion of MAV and of the Library Specialised in Glass. Secondly, the ability to harmonise a local dimension with an international one, tradition with innovation in view of the promotion of the history and techniques of the *Ars Vitrea* of Altare. Such ability must also bring together the promotion of new technical, cultural and artistic experiences through the interactions with glass experts from other schools, artists, designers and historians of national and international reputation. With the ambition of providing

room for debate and becoming a reference point while facilitating the exchange of the experiences of different glass traditions, promoting the study of glass and investigating the future of blown and handmade glass in Italy and in the world.

Alberto Saroldi,
Technical and Scientific
Coordinator of I.S.V.A.V.

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Cover:
Big show vase, called the
"giant", Museo dell'Arte Vetraria
Altarese