



DESIGNMUSEO

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LINE-CUT GLASS OBJECTS BY TAPIO WIRKKALA A theme exhibition opening in May at the Iittala Glass Museum

Tapio Wirkkala (1915–1985) began to design art objects and collections of glassware for the Iittala glassworks in 1946. He also developed techniques of making and decorating glass pieces on several occasions. His line-cut objects are on display in the permanent exhibition of the Iittala Glass Museum.

Wirkkala developed the line-cutting technique as early as 1947, which meant that many of Iittala's glass cutters had to learn a new technique and new assignment in their work. The line-cut pieces were always blown from crystal, and they varied from thin vases to thick, heavy art objects. While many of the line-cut objects were marketed at the time of their design as vases and household objects, they are now considered art objects. The line-cut works are often of organic shape, imitating nature, with the lines of the surface supporting and emphasizing their language of form. Tapio Wirkkala designed a total of 29 line-cut pieces. Taking into account items of different size, the total number of line-cut glass designs is 47. This exhibition seeks to present all the line-cut objects designed by Wirkkala.

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