

# Recycling Melting Blowing



Niesenglass at work in their studio

There is a certain alchemical magic in the transformation of sand into glass through fire. At around 1320 degrees the syrupy blob of glass is liquid enough to blow into, resulting in a bubble that embodies the human breath. From solid to liquid and back – as long as the glass remains free from contamination this process can be repeated endlessly, making it a prime candidate for recycling.

Tracing glass from the bottle to the recycling plant and back into use, our journey will take us through the industrial landscape of Switzerland, all the way back to our garden at the Hönnggerberg where we will directly recycle glass into new forms.

We will engage in the process of glassblowing in a way probably most comparable to Dale Chihuly. The master glassblower had lost one eye in a car accident and thereafter was dependent on assistant glassblowers to execute his distinctive designs. “I’m also fond of drawing parallels between the way I work and the way an architect relates to his group”, he says. Together with the artisans from Niesenglass we will create an understanding the cycles of glass, find a common language and choreograph a process of glassblowing to find form.

Seminar week HS21  
24-29 October  
Cost : B max 500 CHF  
10 students max