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J. HILL'S STANDARD

Crystal Tableware, Gift Ware and Lighting Collection

Waterford, Ireland, JULY 2017 - J. HILL's Standard is a maker of hand made crystal glass based in Ireland, now introducing to the market its second collection with multi-award winning designer Daniel Rybakken. ('Light guru and master of the new modern minimalism'. *Wallpaper* Top 20 under 40 Design stars of tomorrow) .

This young companies' debut collections by Martino Gamper and Scholten & Baijings were shown at Spazio Rossana Orlandi during Salone del Mobile 2014. The two collections of glassware have gone on to win many awards and critical praise including the Wallpaper Whiskey Den award 2015, the German Design Council prize for Tabletop in 2016 and has been acquired by the Louvre for le Musee des Arts Decoratifs for permanent display and the National Museum of Ireland for their contemporary collection.

J. HILL's Standard creates both functional crystal pieces which are usable and accessible and 'free' pieces which actively explore new approaches to the making and enjoyment of glass.

Daniel's work occupies the area between art and design, forming limited editions, art installations and prototypes for serial production.

Secant Series

Together we introduce the *Secant* Mobile and lighting series. The mobile moves in counter poise and is constructed from crystal glass discs, anodized aluminium and rope to show the strength, utility and refractive qualities of glass used in a way that both builds on and usurps the tradition.

Daniel says of the piece ' Secant is about visual and semiotic contrast; the crystal disc communicates something pure, fragile and elevated in value, whilst the machined metal parts and the pulley communicate the industrial.'

Using the Secant Mobile and crystal discs as a point of departure Daniel has designed three lights – wall, floor and table. Restrained and minimal, this modular design allows crystal glass to be appreciated without any overbearing interventions.

At J. HILL's Standard we work with the traditional glass making skills that remain in our area and build on those through exposure to new making challenges and collaborations with other specialist glass houses. We are invested in our role as a cultural project with a wider commitment to the community of glass makers and to re-establishing the region as a centre for glass making excellence where glass makers, designers and artists can make, learn and exchange knowledge.

Daniel Rybakken

Daniel Rybakken

Daniel Rybakken (b.1984) was born in Oslo and trained at AHO, the Oslo School of Architecture and Design. He has a Master of Fine Arts from HDK, the Academy of Design and Crafts at the University of Gothenburg. He lives and works in Gothenburg, where he has run Studio Daniel Rybakken, since 2008.

Subconscious effects of daylight, his degree project at HDK from 2008, examined how daylight influences us

About J. HILL's Standard

Hand-cut crystal is a craft synonymous with Ireland and, in particular, with the area around Waterford. At one time Waterford produced the world's finest cut lead crystal, using 120 furnaces and 3,500 craft workers, and in doing so it drew artisans and industrialists from around the world. However, the industry has been in decline and today there are just a handful of small workshops still practicing the traditional methods of making.

J. HILL's Standard founder Anike Tyrrell says: ' By building carefully on existing skills, accepting the limitations that we now have to work within and working steadily towards the goal of adding new skills and innovative processes, we hope to gradually re invigorate the craft base. There is a great deal to learn from exploring collaborations with the global community of glass makers (each of whom tends to specialise in different spheres of skill) and with designers who are equal to the challenge of taking a fresh approach to the medium.'

The brand takes its inspiration from John Hill, a pioneer of crystal making who joined the Waterford Glass House in 1783. Before his sudden departure just three years later, he noted his formula – his 'Standard' – for compounding glass and passed it to a trusted friend who continued his legacy of excellence and set the course for the superior production in Waterford.

Anike Tyrrell, Founder of J. HILL's Standard had worked for many years as CEO of Waterford County Enterprise Board, which was established to fill a need for economic development in the County Waterford area. Anike has witnessed first hand the huge impact that the decline of the world – renowned Irish crystal industry has had on the local community. J. HILL's Standard was born from a desire to revive this almost extinct industry, building on the talents of an existing group of skilled craftsmen and adding to those skills over time through collaborations with communities of glassmakers from other traditions and through world class design input.

J. HILL's Standard is working with the National College of Art and Design in Ireland to explore ways of making the crystal discs and other forms in Ireland and is very excited to collaborate with their Professor of Glass Art, Caroline Madden and with the student body.

www.jhillsstandard.com

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