

## A Few Basic Tips On How to Photograph Your Glass Art

When photographing your glass for consideration or review for an art show, you must make your strongest presentation. The competition is stiff and the way in which you present your work can often make the difference between being invited to the show or staying home!

- First, get to **KNOW** your camera, and by this we mean take the time to READ the manual! Sure, these days most cameras practically operate themselves, but you should still familiarize yourself with your camera's special features.
- Shiny objects need SOFT light.
- Dull surfaces need stronger lighting (consider a spot).
- Try **BLUE** bulbs in fixtures (such as lamps) when you are lighting a glass piece.
- Use a **PLAIN, CLEAN** background! Photos of your fabulous glass piece on Aunt Bessie's red checkered tablecloth are distracting and no one wants to catch a glimpse of your most recent snack crumbs littering the background either! If you plan on taking a lot of photos of your glass, we suggest you invest in a few pieces of professional photographer's background paper which you can find on-line at B&H Photo and Video, for about \$40.00 a sheet (31" x 43").
- When using a spot light, use a three-sided "background" (this can be made very simply with poster board) and aim your spot lights/lighting AT the board so that your lighting bounces off the "walls" of the poster board and **BACK** onto the piece. This "reflected light" helps to light your piece, and eliminates that "white spot" we so often see in a photo of glass art.
- Make sure your piece(s) is/are really clean – free of fingerprints, smudges and/or dust.
- Arrange your piece(s) for maximum visual effect (i.e., use diagonal, arrange chains for interest).
- Use a tripod or steady your arms by bracing them against a firm surface in order to avoid blurry photos.
- Invest in a photo editing program and learn how to **USE** it!!
- Visit Table Top Studio for excellent, detailed advice on photographing glass, glass beads, silver and jewelry. The Two Lassies are **BIG** fans of the EZcube Light Tent, which makes photographing **ANYTHING** a snap!