Stained Glass Windows: Looking Through a Millennium by Ambleside Stained Glass

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The art of making stained glass has an interesting history. Its inception can be traced back to the ancient Romans and Egyptians. In the beginning, its use was limited only to jewelry. Later, with development in the technology of making glass, it has now found its much popular use as church windows.

Since less people were literate in those times, biblical events found transcendental representation in the form of stained glass windows. Not much later, rich and the elite started getting it incorporated in their windows as a sign of their influence. Though, the earliest traces of these can be dated to the ninth century but written evidence about this art is found not as late as the twelfth century. Theophilus, a monk, in his work â€œOn Diverse Artsâ€• describes in detail the art of making this form of glass. Keeping in account the chapters he has dedicated to describe the overall process of making and using it, the popularity of this art can be ascertained.

Development of this art

During the last 1000 years of its development as an independent genre of art, making and the use of this form of glass art has witnessed a sea of changes. Earlier, mix of some colours and chemicals were used to stain the glass. However, in the present scenario, use of bronze and wood is also mixed with the art of making such crafted windows. Then, it was not only the technology that changed, even the subject matter of this art witnessed a major change. After the Protestant revolution in England and other parts of Europe, the subject matter started shifting away from religious inspirations and biblical contexts.

Modern usage of this glass art

In the twentieth century, with rapid development in science and technology, process of making glass became cheaper and hence, this art form became affordable to a larger section of people. In current scenario, with further developments, process of making stained glass is easier. Moreover, with various tools for cutting glass and with cheap and easy availability of this glass, modern artists keep coming out with new trends in making this glass art form and is incorporation for window decor.

The technological developments and use of modern tools have also made this art affordable to all. Earlier used only in the windows of churches; in the present scenario, this form of glass art finds various other usages as well. Moreover, being affordable, such glass windows now have become quite common.

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Ambleside Stained Glass - About Author:
Ambleside Stained Glass offers wide range of a stained glass products. We also have expertise in incorporation of a stained glass windows and other stained glass products.

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