



Bertil Vallien — 60 years as an artist,  
glass designer and ceramicist.



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# Bertil Vallien - 60 years as an artist, glass designer and ceramicist.

Bertil Vallien, one of Sweden's most popular and internationally famous artists and glass designers looks back on his outstanding sixty-year career in a unique book in three volumes, published by Kosta Förlag.

*"It is a fantastic privilege to be documented in this way - to be able to make a summary with a lot of material that I have collected throughout the years,"* says Bertil Vallien.

The largest of the three books is, as it should be, *Book of Glass*. It is above all as a glass artist that Vallien has made a big name for more than half a century, with exhibitions all over the world, represented in museums such as the Metropolitan in New York and the Hermitage in St. Petersburg, and with world celebrities such as Bill Gates and Elton John among his many collectors worldwide.

*Book of Glass* focuses largely on Bertil Vallien's many international exhibitions over the years, with "hits" in galleries and museums in Warsaw, New York, Chicago and Venice to name just a few.

The glass book is also published in an exclusive limited, signed special edition of 500 copies, intended primarily for Bertil Vallien's many collectors, which includes a specially made glass vessel, the artist's most famous signature.

*Book of Clay* depicts Bertil Vallien's beginnings as an artist and ceramicist - the art form he abandoned for good around 1975. As a ceramicist, Vallien made himself known as a rebel already during his years in Los Angeles in the early sixties, among other things by spray-painting his objects with car paint.

*"I was an artist and a ceramicist and started with glass to have a job, but when I found the sand casting, I immediately felt that I found an expression that was worth throwing myself into,"* says Bertil. *"I have never returned to ceramics, but the material in the book is from the old days, almost only black and white photographs that felt nice to show."*

*Book of Drawings*, finally, is a tribute to Bertil Vallien's lifelong love of drawing, considered by many artists, including Bertil, to be the very essence of artistic creation. A main theme in his drawings is horses.

*"In primary school at the age of 11-12, I was good at drawing horses, which made me popular among the girls. It later gave me confidence to apply to Konstfack. I also did military service in 1957 as a cavalryman on K4 in Umeå, the last generation of alpine hunters on horseback. I got my fill as a rider there and have not ridden since but I have continued to draw horses. To me, there is something amazing about these incredibly powerful bodies and their submissiveness, a symbol of faithfulness and trust."*

The author of the book is the writer and TV producer Staffan Bengtsson, who is also the exhibition commissioner and catalog editor for Ulrica Hydman-Vallien's exhibition and who produced the TV documentary about the artist for SVT.

*"I have chosen to make the text a personal, relaxed and intimate conversation with Bertil, to de-dramatize the solemnity of glass art,"* says Staffan Bengtsson. *"A source of inspiration is James Lord's nice little portrait book about Alberto Giacometti from 1965"*.



## Vessel Edition -500

Box	Limited to 500 examples, including a vessel signed by Bertil Vallien, collected in an exclusive box
Book	Book of Glass, 448 p
Length	355 mm
Height	75 mm
Width	315 mm
Weight	5 kg
Artikel nr.	7010407
Price	5000 kr



## Collected Works

Box	Books in three volumes collected in an exclusive box
Books	Book of Glass, 448 p Book of Clay, 178 p Book of Drawings, 198 p
Length	250 mm
Height	340 mm
Width	115 mm
Weight	7 kg
Artikel nr.	7010408
Price	3000 kr



## Book of Glass

Book	Book of Glass, 448 p
Length	330 mm
Height	57 mm
Width	240 mm
Weight	3,4 kg
Artikel nr.	7010406
Price	1500 kr

## Facts

Text	Staffan Bengtsson
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BERTIL VALLIEN  
BOOK OF GLASS



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