

# Reflecting her creativity

Anjali Venkat uses glass to create varied ware – from wearable art to usable design

Seven Shots



**A**njali Venkat was always in sync with art and craft and whilst she was not really career-oriented to begin with, she always kept herself 'creatively occupied'. Fast-growing children meant increasing time on her hands... and she put those hands to good use, creating designs and exploring fascinations. Even as a child, she was enchanted by glass and the shimmer of light's effect on glass. Stained glass church windows, kaleidoscopes and even glass bangles enthralled her, and that is how she took to experimenting with stained glass.

In 1995, *Anjali Design* was born. One of her first works with glass was a stained glass inset panel for an ornamental table top. Glass *diyas*, sun catchers, candle shelters, lamps and trays followed suit as products of her artistic labour which includes glass cutting, melting and soldering, etc. She calls it a 'tough, scientific art' that requires some hard labour to realize the designs. Another attractive range is her 'wearable art' section – glass earrings, neck pieces, bracelets, with embellishments as appropriate. New in the accessories section this year is her work with dichroic and art glass, as she has cut wafer-thin shards of dichroic glass into endearing shapes of nature – a dragonfly, a tree, a bird... these have then

been fused on to art glass to become pendants and earrings. Also new are bangle cuffs, where she has hand moulded molten glass to curve it around the wrist!

Anjali does not believe in restricting her horizons and also tries to constantly update herself on the latest techniques working with glass. She has attended workshops abroad too. She is trained in commercial art as well, and also works to create Tanjore paintings, Tussars, and stationery. Persistent experimentation with art and craft with a special, unique emphasis on glass is her forte. The latest in *Anjali Design* is fusing photo images onto glass resulting in a sepia tone image and then these are made into fan lamps and candle shelters.

There are samples of her work handy at her studio always, for it is her special space for creative pursuits and she also conducts classes and workshops there. Her website is [www.anjalidesign.com](http://www.anjalidesign.com); the studio is located at H 18/4, Arundale Beach Road, 3rd St, Kalakshetra Colony, Besant Nagar, ph: 98400 76492/45511170.

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