



*Glass Society - Free Zoom talk*

# Dr. Cynthia Williams

*Hidden History: The Glass Design Legacy of Daniel Pearce (1817-1907)*

7pm (GMT), Thursday, November 9, 2023

This illustrated presentation about British glass designer Daniel Pearce (1817-1907) documents a remarkable seven-decade design evolution. From 1840s art student at the new Government School of Design to international recognition at international world's fairs for designing fantastical engraved glass objects such as the Hamilton Vase and Morrison Tazza, Cynthia traces Pearce's further entrepreneurial ventures and numerous patents, as well as his final chapter begun in 1884 as a member of the unsurpassed Woodall cameo glass team at Thomas Webb and Sons. This fuller assessment of Daniel Pearce's distinct contributions and the part they played in the triumph of nineteenth-century British glass affords the designer his rightful place in British glass history.



*Pictures: Photo of Daniel Pearce from his Obituary, The Pottery Gazette, March 1, 1907; Hamilton Vase, © Cynthia Williams.*

In 2020 Cynthia completed a PhD in art history at the University of Glasgow with a specialty in nineteenth-century British glass, and also that year was named a Fellow of the Corning Museum of Glass. From 2000 to 2015, Cynthia led the Smithsonian Institution MA in History of Decorative Arts and Design program and since 2019 has taught the required History of Glass course for undergraduates at Rhode Island School of Design. She serves as president of the board of trustees of The Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass in New York and is an active participant in numerous art history related organizations.

**TO BOOK:** Please contact David Willars at [gsocfinancial@gmail.com](mailto:gsocfinancial@gmail.com). Please note, places are limited. You will be sent details of how to join the Zoom meeting before the 9th November.

*Next Meeting: 14 December.*