

Giving new life to glass fishing floats as glassware

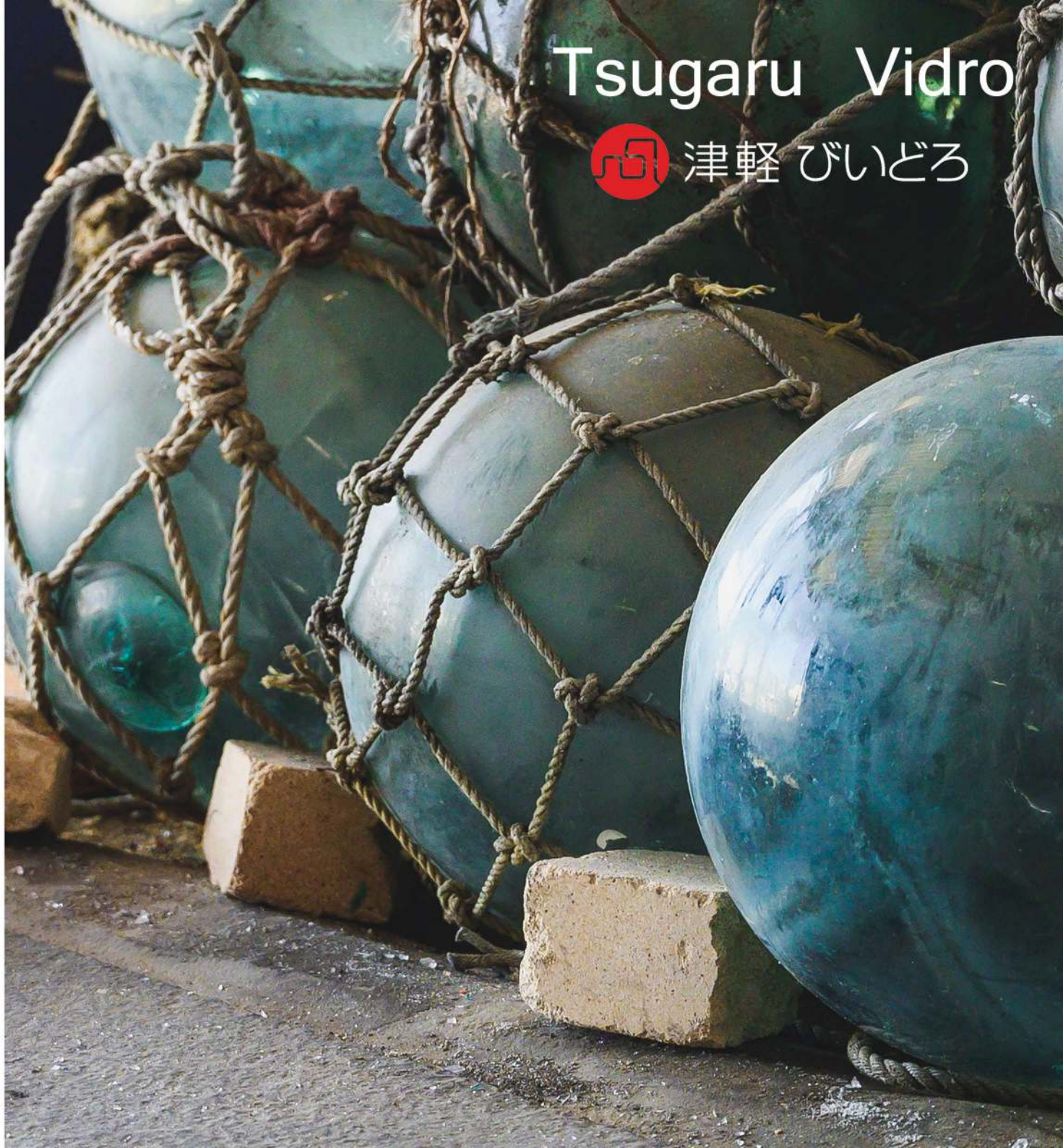
The Hokuyo Glass Company, which produces Tsugaru Vidro, started as a glass fishing float factory. The glass floats blown by Hokuyo Glass were popular for their durability, and, at one time, Hokuyo Glass was the top producer in Japan.

Over time, though, these glass floats were replaced with plastic fishing floats, and the long history of glass float production ended. Very few glass fishing floats are in use these days, but because they are difficult to dispose of, they are often piled up and abandoned at fishing ports.

Fishermen having trouble disposing of their glass floats consulted with Hokuyo Glass. As a glass factory involved with glass float production, we did not want to waste this precious resource. We collected the glass fishing floats and gave them a new life as a glassware series. The deep aqua blue-green color and bubbles are expressions unique to glass fishing floats used in the ocean.

We hope this refined look will remind you of Aomori's oceans.

Tsugaru Vidro



Inquire to:

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Houseware Company

International Sales Dept.

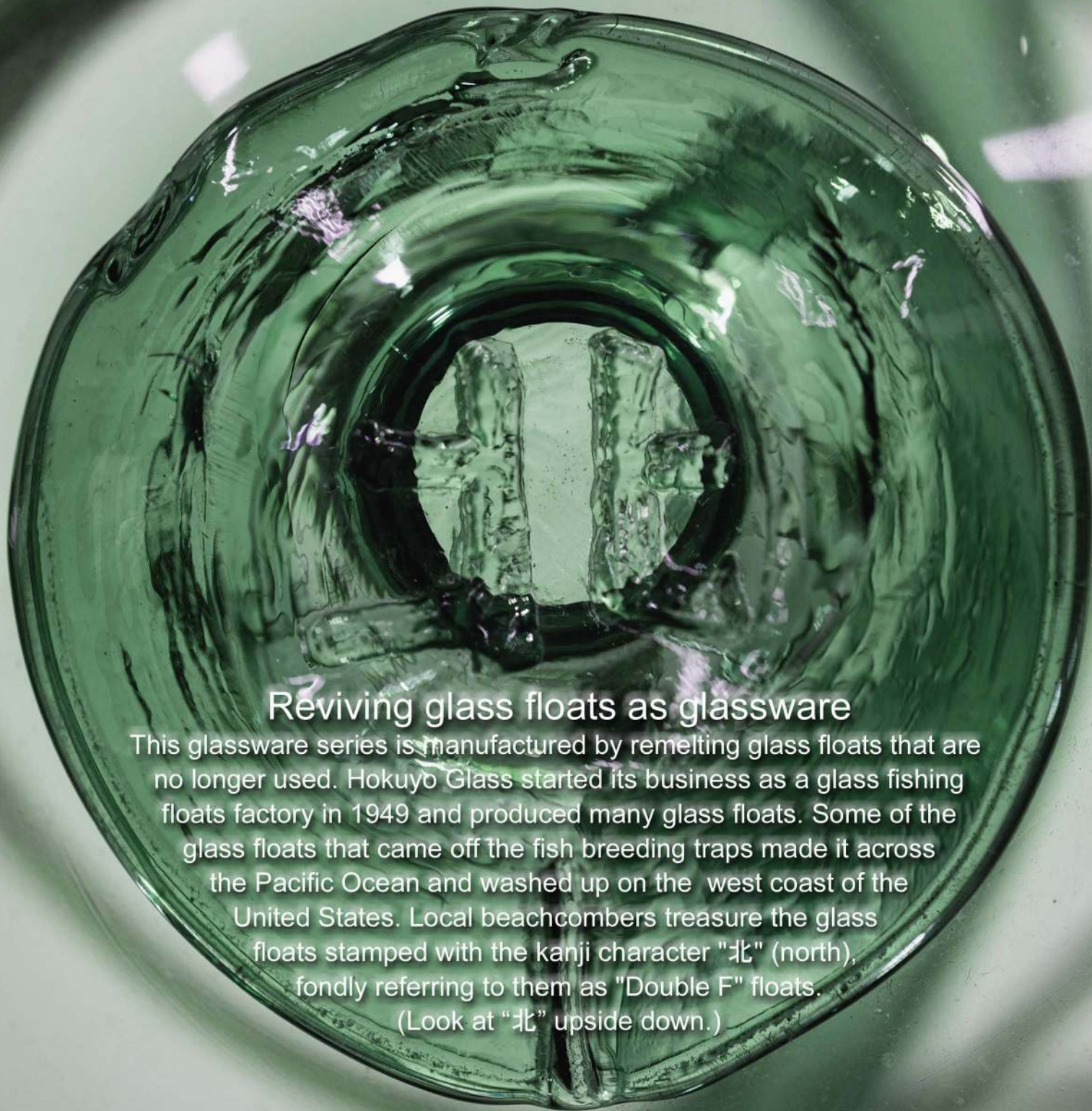
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Reviving glass floats as glassware

This glassware series is manufactured by remelting glass floats that are no longer used. Hokuyo Glass started its business as a glass fishing floats factory in 1949 and produced many glass floats. Some of the glass floats that came off the fish breeding traps made it across the Pacific Ocean and washed up on the west coast of the United States. Local beachcombers treasure the glass floats stamped with the kanji character "北" (north), fondly referring to them as "Double F" floats. (Look at "北" upside down.)