

# FROM “VISIONS THAT WON'T STAND STILL”

by Irvin J. Borowsky and Laurie Wegman

Clearly, Steve Tobin is an artist who is following his instincts. His work reflects a personal vision that, happily, won't stand still. His image of movement, the challenge he sets himself, the force of glass that refuses to become static are what one admires in his sculpture.

The work itself is a compilation of influences to which Tobin is adding his own unique statement. Initially, it grows out of its American roots; the raw energy and irreverent vitality are there, to be sanded into grace and poetry by extensive experience and forays into the Japanese art culture. The result is a synthesis of form and substance and talent.

The overall body of Tobin's work is manifested in series. Each gives birth to the next. Each offers its own conceptual presence. In the newest works, human identity surges unexpectedly from the glass.

Tobin is a classic artist, not just because he devotes himself to the mystery of this one medium but because he subsumes and absorbs the classic challenges that modern glass offers. It is the connections in Tobin's work—connections that reach back in time and forward to the future—that are of special interest to the Borowsky-Wagman collection. The collection, which documents the studio glass movement worldwide, recognizes and reflects fully the process that links traditional influences to new art forms.