

Globe by Giancarlo Begotti



Recognizing the contribution art has had in the Mayo Clinic environment since the original Mayo Clinic Building was finished in 1914, *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* features some of the numerous works of art displayed throughout the buildings and grounds on Mayo Clinic campuses as interpreted by the author.

Giancarlo Begotti was born in Venice, Italy, on December 5, 1920. He was an alumnus of the Superior Institute of Decorative Arts ‘Carmini’ in Venice and initially worked in design. In the mid-1940s he began working in the famed Murano glassworks world¹ at Ars Cenedes Murano, a Venetian glass-blowing furnace in operation since 1946.²

Begotti specializes in Grafitto³ – the technique of adding thin layers of gold leaf to cooled blown glass and etching designs – and then further shielding it by covering it with another layer of molten glass.³ Begotti’s favorite motifs consist of knights and ladies from the Venetian Renaissance.¹

Globe stands 41x18-inches, with the globe section 18 inches in diameter. The cobalt blue glass and the gold filigree make *Globe* appear as palpable as the image from the Apollo 8 lunar shot of earth taken in 1968. Begotti inscribed “Typus Orbis Terrarum,” or “map of the world” on its pedestal.⁴

Mr and Mrs Gerald I. Cohn gifted *Globe* to Mayo Clinic in honor of Dr and Mrs F. Rolland Dickson in 2000, and it can be viewed on the 5th floor of the Gonda Building on the Rochester campus of Mayo Clinic.



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1. Ars Cenedese Murano: Giancarlo Begotti. <https://www.arscenedese.com/en/glassmasters/>. Accessed August 17, 2020.
2. Ars Cenedese Murano. <https://www.arscenedese.com/en/>. Accessed August 17, 2020.
3. Glass Museum website. <https://museovetro.visitmuve.it/en/it-museo/layout-and-collections/in-depth/glass-types-and-glassmaking-techniques-19th-century/>. Accessed August 17, 2020.
4. Typus orbis Terrarum. <https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:x633f946s>. Accessed August 17, 2020.