

Cosmos and Cane

by Robert Grissom

Cosmos and Cane was produced by the US Glass Company, a conglomerate of several glass plants in the eastern United States. While US Glass made a number of patterns in carnival glass, only Cosmos and Cane and Palm Beach were produced in any quantity.

The predominant colors for Cosmos and Cane are honey amber and white with a few pieces in marigold and a very rare amethyst. Honey amber is unique to the US Glass Company and is an excellent description of the color—a warm yellowish iridescence on clear glass. White pieces are usually very frosty and have good iridescence. Cosmos and Cane pieces have been reported in crystal. A large portion of the US Glass Company's output was crystal glass.

Cosmos and Cane was used on water sets, table sets, breakfast sets, berry bowls, bowls, compotes, rosebowls, and many whimsies—a total of 17 shapes. More whimsy shapes are known in Cosmos and Cane than almost any other pattern.

Pattern Series

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Plates. Only two of the 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " chop plates (at right) are known, both in honey amber. Curiously, they glow under a black light.

Headdress interior. Many bowls in the pattern are found with an elaborate pattern on the inside called Headdress, shown on an amethyst ruffled bowl, below.



Photo courtesy of Dear and Diane Fry



A rare platter. Possibly made from a butter dish bottom, this oval whimsey is the only one known.

The shaped bowl. This is a fairly common shape, invariably seen with the Headdress interior and almost always in white. Tricorner versions of this same bowl are also seen.

Ladies spittoon. There are two known of these delicate white spittoons. They are less than 3/4 inches across.



Rosebowls. The typical shape of cupped-in bowl (below) is known in at least two sizes, although auction listings sometimes refer to the dome-footed compotes as rosebowls. Shown here are a large honey amber rosebowl made from a master berry bowl and a marigold example made from a small bowl with the Headdress interior.



Compotes. There is a wide variety of compotes found in the Cosmos and Cane pattern, all of them quite rare. The three above were all made from the same mold, but whimsied into these special shapes: a spittoon shape, a tulip shape, and one that collectors call "volcano." The stemmed compote, sometimes referred to as a jelly compote, is very rare and known in honey amber and white.



Table sets. These come in both honey amber and white, with a few pieces known in marigold and lavender. Honey amber is the more difficult color to find. **Breakfast sets.** This set, which consists of an open sugar and creamer that are smaller than similar pieces in the table set, are found in white and a rare marigold.



Tumblers and pitchers.

Water sets were made in honey amber and white. White pieces are much more scarce, but neither is easily found. A few lavender and marigold tumblers are known. Some honey amber tumblers have "J.R. Milner Co. Lynchburg, VA" molded into the bottom and are very rare. A complete seven-piece water set in either color would be about as expensive as any carnival water set.



Bowls. Bowls, like many shapes in Cosmos and Cane, are quite scarce. At the right is a ruffled bowl in white. Master berry bowls with or without the Headdress interior can be found in honey amber or white. Six-inch bowls are known in white and honey amber, with and without the Headdress interior. An oval, non-collar based bowl is known that may be a whimsey from a butter dish base.



Glass courtesy of Ayers Auction Service, Burns Auction Service, Bob Grissom, Ken and Bev Osbon, Carl and Ferne Schroeder, Seeck Auctions and Floyd and Cecil Whitley. Thanks to Doris Bliss for her contributions to this article.

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