Rish Gordon was born Patricia Susan Roddan, in Carlisle, England, in 1935 and was educated at Kenya High School in Nairobi. In 1957, after completing a four-year diploma course at Edinburgh College of Art under the tutelage of Helen Monroe-Turner, she undertook engraving for Whitefriars Glass in London. She moved to Norway in 1958 where she worked in the design office of the Hadelands Glassworks before her marriage to Alasdair in the same year and the setting up of their engraving workshop.

Whilst bringing up the four children, Rish produced, freelance, watercolour paintings of the flora and fauna of Norway. In 1973, having moved to Crieff in Scotland, Rish continued her freelance work painting birds and animals. She took part in several exhibitions throughout central Scotland and was represented in the Scottish Craft Centre, Glasgow; in 1978 she gave a one-person show in Dunblane and
Rish Gordon contd.
in 1979 took part in an exhibition at La Défense, Paris.

When the family emigrated to Perth, Western Australia, and established the Gordon Studio in 1980, Rish became a full-time partner in the business. Already a well-established wild life watercolour artist, Rish continued this interest into her glass engraving, for which she has gained considerable acclaim.

Over the years Rish has refined a sandblasting etching technique which is very much her own. Her themes often include animals, or birds, inspired by her love of nature, extensive traveling and childhood in Africa. Rish exhibits in exhibitions nationally and abroad, and has engraved presentation pieces for HRH Prince Philip, Bill Clinton and for Prime Minister Bob Hawke, she is also represented in the National Gallery, Canberra.