

GLASSWEEKEND '17 – WHEATONARTS PREMIER BIENNIAL EVENT JUNE 10 AND 11

MILLVILLE, NJ (May 18, 2017) – WheatonArts announces GlassWeekend '17, a premier biennial event of contemporary art made in glass, taking place on June 10 and 11. Registrants and the general public have an opportunity to meet the world's leading glass artists and collectors, view works offered by world-class galleries, and watch demonstrations by esteemed artists in the WheatonArts Glass Studio. Visitors to GlassWeekend '17 are also invited to browse two new exhibitions at the Museum of American Glass, "**Emanation 2017: An Invitational Contemporary Art Exhibit**" and "**The Boroff Collection: Goblets, Memories, and Friendships**," as well as a pop-up installation in the Train Station by Rachel Rader and the Ancient Truth Investigators.

Visiting Galleries include Bender Gallery, Asheville, NC; Habatat Galleries, Royal Oak, MI; Hedone Gallery, Leonia, NJ; Heller Gallery, New York, NY; Maurine Littleton Gallery, Washington, DC; and Morgan Contemporary Glass Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA. The Galleries will be open to the public on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Artists presented by these Galleries include Bertil Vallien, Carmen Lozar, Biba Schutz, Jen Blazina, Rik Allen and Shelley Muzyłowski Allen, Robert Bender, Pam Sabroso, Alison Siegel, Michael Janis and more. In addition to these highly respected galleries, WheatonArts will present "**GLASS GLOBAL: Artists from Around the World**," a curated exhibition of international contemporary glass, featuring work of artists from Great Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Sweden, Austria, Japan, Australia, Czech Republic, China, Hungary, Netherlands, and Germany.

Special guest artists demonstrating at GlassWeekend '17 include Shelley Muzyłowski Allen and Rik Allen, Emily Brown, artist team Flock the Optic, Vanessa German, Rachel Rader and the Ancient Truth Investigators, Matthew Szösz, and Lucio Bubacco. (Artist bios below).

Proceeds from GlassWeekend '17 will support the Creative Glass Center of America (CGCA) Fellowship Program at WheatonArts. Since 1983, the program provides working fellowships to ten individual artists from around the world each year. Recipients of Fellowships over the past 34 years range from established artists such as Josiah McElheny, Karen Lamonte, and Beth Lipman to emerging artists Misha Kahn and Amy Lemaire.

EXHIBITIONS

The Museum of American Glass exhibition, "**Emanation 2017: An Invitational Contemporary Art Exhibit**," is a highlight of GlassWeekend '17. The exhibition features work made by contemporary artists who utilized the Glass Studio and museum resources at WheatonArts to create new work. Participating artists are: Emily Brown, Vanessa German, Michael Joo, Lorna Simpson, Therman Statom, Matthew Szösz, and the artist team, Flock the Optic. The School House will also be in use hosting emanation work created by Flock the Optic in a special interactive installation.

The Museum of American Glass will also present "**The Boroff Collection: Goblets, Memories and Friendships**," a special exhibit that shares the passion of contemporary glass art goblet collectors, Barbara and her late husband, Alan Boroff, from Radnor, PA. Through a curated selection of goblets from their extensive collection, this exhibit tells the story of the Boroff's journey as collectors, illustrates their style and exemplifies their connection to and respect for artists.

WheatonArts' Creative Glass Center of America program alumni will be featured in a special exhibition "**Expression: Creative Glass Center Invitational**," in the Gallery of Fine Craft. Participating artists include Jennifer Crescuillo, Morgan Gilbreath, Amy Lemaire and Matthew Szösz.

The Train Station will be hosting Rachel Rader and the Ancient Truth Investigators (ATI), turning it into a laboratory-like exhibition for storytelling. ATI connects elements of New Age mysticism and performance art to handmade objects. They explore the power of positive manifestation through a narrative that links human ancestry to a race of Sea People who had an innate understanding of the planet.

VISIT

Information on registration for the whole weekend and special Fellowship rates for groups can be found on www.wheatonarts.org or call 856-825-6800.

Public GlassWeekend '17 hours run Saturday, June 10 from 11am-5pm and Sunday, June 11 from 11am-4pm
Admission for the general public on June 10 and 11 is \$10.00 Adults, \$9.00 Senior Adults, and \$7.00 Students.

Children five and under are free. Attendance to the Gallery Exhibition and all other WheatonArts facilities including the Glass Studio demonstrations are included in the price of admission. Tickets are available at the gate.

WheatonArts strives to ensure the accessibility of its exhibitions, events, and programs to all persons with disabilities. Provide two weeks' notice for additional needs. Patrons with hearing and speech disabilities may contact WheatonArts through the New Jersey Relay Service (TRS) 800-852-7899 or by dialing 711.

Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, and the New Jersey Cultural Trust. WheatonArts also receives general operating support from the New Jersey Historical Commission, Division of Cultural Affairs in the New Jersey Department of State and is supported in part by the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism. Additional project support funding for GlassWeekend '17 has been provided by Bank of America.

NOTE TO EDITORS

About WheatonArts

WheatonArts and Cultural Center, founded as Wheaton Village in 1968, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to *engage artists and audiences in an evolving exploration of creativity. The mission will be advanced through the interpretation of collections and exhibitions; education initiatives and culturally diverse public programs; residencies and other opportunities for artists.* With a history spanning four decades, WheatonArts has earned regional, national and international recognition for its unique collections and programs. The *Museum of American Glass* is at the heart of the Center, housing the most comprehensive collection of glass produced in America. Located in Millville, the center of the nation's first glass industry, the *Museum* is one of only eight museums in New Jersey to be accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

Shelley Muzylowski Allen

Shelley Muzylowski Allen was born in Manitoba, Canada, and has a B.F.A. in Painting and Intaglio from the Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design. After working with the William Morris sculpture team in Washington State as a glass-sculpting assistant from 1998 to 2004, Shelley established a glass and sculpture studio with her husband, artist Rik Allen at their property in Skagit County, WA. In addition to being artists, Shelley and Rik have taught internationally at the Toyama City Institute of Glass Art in Japan, Nuutajarvi Glass Village in Finland and the International Glass Festival in Stourbridge, England. They have also taught nationally, including the Penland School of Crafts, Pittsburgh Glass Center, and at Pilchuck Glass School. Shelley has been awarded Provincial, and Canada Council grants and her work is held nationally and internationally in public institutions and private collections.

Rik Allen

Rik Allen was born in Providence, Rhode Island, and has a B.A. in Anthropology from Franklin Pierce University. In 1995, Rik also became a member of the William Morris sculpture team, specializing in engraving, cutting, and finishing glass sculpture for 12 years. His current series of work has been in the form of spacecraft, rockets, and scientific apparatuses. While many of Rik's pieces have a reference to his curiosity for science, they also convey humor, simple narratives, and a lightheartedness that is embodied in much of science fiction's antiquated vision of the future. His work has been featured and reviewed in numerous publications and is held in national and international private collections.

Emily Brown

Growing up in Chester County, Pennsylvania and spending summers in inland midcoast Maine, Emily Brown is deeply affected by the natural landscape, drawing from textures and surfaces found in the wild for her drawings, paintings and prints. Other sources for her imagery include beloved toys, and the figures of humans and animals in motion photographed in the 1880s by Eadweard Muybridge. These provide a presence that can be variously humorous, tragic, romantic, or ambiguous. Brown's paintings, drawings and prints are included the following collections: The Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Princeton University Art Museum, The James A. Michener Museum, The MacDowell Colony, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, the Free Library of Philadelphia, The Alex Katz Foundation, AllianceBernstein in Tokyo, and the United States Embassy, Astana, Kazakhstan. She has been awarded fellowships from the Pew Center for Arts and Heritage, The MacDowell Colony, La Napoule Art Foundation (Cote D'Azur, France,) and Wave Hill in the Bronx, NY. She has also received a Purchase Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and grants from the Leeway Foundation, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the Independence Foundation. Brown attended Middlebury College; the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and the University of Pennsylvania.

Flock the Optic

Flock the Optic consists of three individuals brought together under extraordinary circumstances. ABC was a small time DJ working on a Peruvian alpaca farm, spinning both the finest yarn and the phattest beats. Stitch was born under a chromyl moon in a freight car, and made her living patching clothing for wanderlust buskers traveling west. Mumbles emerged from the swamplands of Western Dakota with a rapid comprehension of 90s magic-eye posters, which garnered him county

wide fame. The Flock met one mid-morning in the flatlands of the Skagit Valley, each arriving independently in response to newspaper advertisement for experienced astrologists. As they approached each other, an instantaneous rainbow aura appeared around the trio, highlighting them in an intense spectrum wash, as a flock of snow geese flew silently overhead. The trio was momentarily released from gravity and floated together. Since that day they have been linked telepathically, ornithologically, and chromologically.

Vanessa German

Vanessa German is a visual and performance artist based in the Pittsburgh neighborhood of Homewood. Homewood is the community that is the driving force behind German's powerful performance work, and whose cast-off relics form the language of her copiously embellished sculptures. As a citizen artist, German explores the power of art and love as a transformative force in the dynamic cultural ecosystem of communities and neighborhoods. She is the founder of Love Front Porch and the ARHouse, a community arts initiative for the children of Homewood. Her work is in private and public collections including Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, The Progressive Art Collection, David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the Visual Arts and Culture of African Americans and the African Diaspora, Snite Museum of Art, among others. She has been exhibited widely, including the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, GA; Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT; Studio Museum in Harlem, NY; the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, FL, etc. Her work has been featured on CBS Sunday Morning, NPR's All Things Considered and in The Huffington Post, O Magazine and Essence Magazine. She is the recipient of the 2015 L. C. Tiffany Foundation grant. Vanessa German is represented by Pavel Zoubok Gallery in New York.

Rachel Rader

Rachel is a storyteller and maker living in Brooklyn, NY, and she is the Chief Investigator of ATI and seeks to unite Humanity with the once-lost ancient knowledge of the Sea People. Born in Orlando, FL in 1984, Rachel earned a Bachelor in Fine Arts in Material Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia in 2006. She has since exhibited her work at several venues including the Society for Contemporary Craft in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art in Virginia Beach, Virginia; Racine Art Museum in Racine, Wisconsin; Bullseye Glass Resource Center, New York; and the UrbanGlass Window Gallery in Brooklyn, NY. She received both the Artist Trust Fellowship in 2012, and the Jon and Mary Shirley Scholarship in 2010 which continue to aid in her confidence as an artist. Rachel also has an extensive background sharing her passion for glass as an instructor at institutions including Bullseye Glass Resource Center in Portland, OR and New York, Penland School of Crafts in Penland, NC, Pratt Fine Arts Center in Seattle, WA and UrbanGlass in Brooklyn, NY.

Matthew Szösz

Matthew Szösz creates new approaches to form by developing innovative methods of employing materials including glass. Born in Rhode Island, Matthew Szösz has received two Bachelor's degrees (Fine Arts and Industrial Design), as well as a Masters in Fine Art from Rhode Island School of Design. He has won several awards, including the 2009 Jutta Cuny-Franz Memorial Award, an L. C. Tiffany Foundation grant, and the 2015 Irvin Borowsky Prize. He has been an artist in residence at university programs across the US, Denmark, Japan, and Australia; taught workshops and classes at numerous glass venues; and has exhibited widely at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, GlazenHuis (Flemish Centre for Contemporary Glass Art) and the Museum of Art and Design in NYC, among others.

Lucio Bubacco

Lucio Bubacco was born on the island of Murano in 1957. At fifteen, he received his artisan's license and began marketing Venetian lampwork collectibles. In 1980, he began studying anatomical drawing with the Venetian artist Alessandro Rossi and figures in movement became a central theme of his work, transcending traditional application of lampworking. His work has been selected for numerous solo exhibitions around the world including Habatat Galleries in Chicago, IL; Museo del Vidrio in Monterrey, Mexico; Hakone Venetian Glass Art Museum in Otaru, Japan; and Muriel Karasik Gallery in New York. Collections including his work can be found at the Museum of Art and Design, New York; Museo del Vetro in Italy; Musée Atelier du Verre in France; and Glasmuseum Frauenauand in Germany, among others.



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