



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MEDIA ALERT:**

**Support Conservation at Museum of Glass**

Tacoma, WA. — Artist Joe Rossano, Trout Unlimited, Bellevue Arts Museum, and Museum of Glass are pleased to announce a weekend dedicated to the preservation of wild steelhead and salmon. On Saturday and Sunday, October 13 and 14, Museum of Glass will host a makers event in the Hot Shop with more than a dozen local artists, as well as hold discussions, screen films, and share stories about the decline of the steelhead and salmon in our Pacific Northwest waters. The weekend's purpose — to contribute to the creation of over 2,000 glass fish *and* raise awareness of how our changing environment is adversely affecting the fish population.

Multimedia artist Joseph Rossano has always had the desire to create a project that brings art and nature together and enlightens the viewer both visually and subliminally. This project, titled *School: The Joseph Rossano Salmon Project*, will result in a large-scale installation of glass fish made both in the Museum's Hot Shop and by multiple artists from across the country; essentially a crowdsourced art installation. The installation will become an exhibition at Bellevue Arts Museum in Spring 2019, returning to its place of origin, MOG, in 2022. It's sure to gain attention from an artistic perspective, but it will also get people talking and thinking about the real issue, the global state of our environment.

In addition to the collaboration with Museum of Glass and Bellevue Arts Museum, Rossano has partnered with Trout Unlimited. Founded nearly 50 years ago, this organization is at the forefront of fisheries restoration work at the local, state and national levels. Those in the organization feel strongly that they can rebuild the watersheds across the Pacific Northwest and want to enlist the help of local anglers, engaging them in the conservation effort.

The schedule of events for this informative weekend follows:

**Saturday, October 13**

**10am – 5pm — Glassblowing of fish — Artist collaborations (Hot Shop)**

**10:30 – 11:00am — Joseph Rossano and April Surgent (Hot Shop)**

Joseph and April will introduce *School: The Joseph Rossano Salmon Project* and talk about the connection between Art and Science as a tool for conservation and awareness.

Based in the Washington's Olympic Peninsula, April Surgent is a glass artist who changed her focus from blown to wheel engraved glass more than 14 years ago. Surgent's interest in applied conservation science led her to Antarctica in 2013, with the National Science Foundation's, Antarctic Artist and Writers Program. Her research there focused on remote conservation fieldwork and the effects of anthropogenic impacts on vulnerable ecosystems. Currently, she is working with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's, Hawaiian Monk Seal Research Program continuing that research.

**11:30am – 1:00pm — Salmon Without Rivers — Shane Anderson (Theater)**

**1:30 – 3:00pm — Run Wild Run Free — Shane Anderson (Theater)**

Shane Anderson is a former professional downhill skier turned documentary filmmaker. His interest in film began in 1998; he worked in the film and television industry in Los Angeles for eight years; and in 2012, he began his own production company, North Fork Studios, which merges his love of the outdoors with his love of visual storytelling and production.

Shane will screen his two most recent films, *Salmon Without Rivers* and *Run Wild Run Free, 50 Years of Wild and Scenic Rivers*. Shane will be on-hand to introduce his films and answer questions. [www.pacificrivers.org/shane-anderson.html](http://www.pacificrivers.org/shane-anderson.html) <https://www.northforkstudios.net/about>

**3:30 – 4:30pm — John McMillan (Theater)**

John McMillan, [Steelhead Science Director for Trout Unlimited](#), has snorkeled over 1,500 river miles, spent thousands of hours observing steelhead, and is considered a regional expert on their plight. In addition to publishing scientific manuscripts on this topic and others, his writing and underwater photography and videography have been published and broadcast in scientific journals, books, popular magazines, newspapers, movies, and television. At the event John will talk about why steelhead are unique among salmonids, and the types of behaviors they have evolved that allow the species to pack so much diversity into a single population. Interested in what Danny DeVito and Arnold Schwarzenegger have in common with steelhead? All that, and more, will be answered as John explains the complex world of steelhead in a way that anyone can easily understand. Learn what *makes a steelhead a steelhead*, and how to get involved in the growing movement to conserve and rebuild wild steelhead runs.

**Sunday, October 14**

**12 – 5pm — Glassblowing of fish — Artist collaborations (Hot Shop)**

**12 – 1:30pm — The Anglers Art (Theater)**

Renowned angler and fly tier, Greg Hunt, will collaborate with Northwest steelhead fly tying and angling icons, Jerry French, Steve Gobin, Sean Dahlquist, and John Olshewsky. Through

demonstration and story-telling, Hunt will show viewers how Victorian sensibilities in fly tying impacted a generation of modern anglers and tiers.

## **2 – 4pm — The Breach with Mark Titus (Theater)**

When fishing guide/filmmaker Mark Titus learns why wild salmon populations plummeted in his native Pacific Northwest, he embarks on a journey to discover where the fish have gone and what might bring them back. Along the way, Titus unravels a trail of human hubris, historical amnesia, and potential tragedy looming in Alaska—all conspiring to end the most sustainable wild food left on the planet. [The Breach with Mark Titus](#)



Joseph Rossano (American, born 1962)  
*School: The Joseph Rossano Salmon Project*  
Photo Courtesy of C.B. Bell



Joseph Rossano in Museum of Glass Hot Shop  
Photo Courtesy of Museum of Glass

### **About Joseph Rossano**

Joseph Rossano, born to clinicians and research scientists, graduated from Louisiana State University as an artist. His path joined him, via mentorship, collaboration, and exhibition, with renowned artists and institutions including Dale Chihuly, Judy Pfaff, The Pilchuck Glass School, Waterford Crystal, Museum of Glass, the South Australia Museum, and Google. Integrating cutting edge technology and science with his art, Rossano engages and challenges viewers to reflect upon mankind's impact on our planet and its varied ecosystems. Much of Rossano's youth was spent in New York's Hudson Valley and Catskill Mountains, formative years that evolved a life focused on creating environmental awareness through Art. Rossano now lives and works 65 miles north of Seattle, his home and studio nestled in the temperate rain forests of the Pacific Northwest.

### **About Trout Unlimited (TU)**

Trout Unlimited is a national organization with about 300,000 members and supporters organized into over 400 chapters and councils from Maine to Montana to Alaska. This dedicated grassroots army is matched by a respected staff of lawyers, policy experts and scientists, who work out of more than 30 offices nationwide. These conservation professionals ensure that TU is at the forefront of fisheries restoration work at the local, state and national levels. Nearly 50 years after its founding, no other conservation organization is as well placed as TU to make a difference for the nation's coldwater fisheries. To learn more about TU's ambitious conservation agenda, please visit [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org).

### **About Bellevue Arts Museum (BAM)**

Bellevue Arts Museum provides a public forum for the community to contemplate, appreciate, and discuss

visual culture. BAM works with audiences, artists, makers, and designers to understand our shared experience of the world. More at [www.bellevuearts.org](http://www.bellevuearts.org)

### **About Museum of Glass (MOG)**

Located in Tacoma, Washington, Museum of Glass is a premier contemporary art museum dedicated to glass and glassmaking in the West Coast's largest and most active museum glass studio. Opened in 2002, the Museum has established a reputation for hosting impactful and engaging artist residencies, organizing nationally traveling exhibitions, and creating unique programs for visitors while building a growing permanent collection chronicling the development of modern and contemporary glass. Museum of Glass provides an environment for artists and the public to ignite creativity, fuel discovery, and enrich their lives through glass and glassmaking. Museum of Glass is a non-profit organization sponsored in part by the City of Tacoma Arts Commission, ArtsFund, Leonard and Norma Klorfine Foundation, The Dimmer Family Foundation, and D.V. & Ida McEachern Charitable Trust. Learn more at [museumofglass.org](http://museumofglass.org).



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