



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 28, 2016

**Media Contact:**

Alexandra Carr, Communications Manager, 253.284.2130, [acarr@museumofglass.org](mailto:acarr@museumofglass.org)

## **Museum of Glass Announces Visiting Artist Summer Series Schedule**

Tacoma, Wash. — Museum of Glass (MOG) will welcome both emerging and established artists from across the nation and around the world this summer. Notable names include local artist Richard Marquis and Davide Salvadore from Murano, Italy. Hilltop Artists' students are this summer's youngest Visiting Artists. Their residency is part of a continuing partnership between MOG and Hilltop Artists, which gives the organization's students an opportunity to experience working in the Museum's large-scale Hot Shop.

*From Memorial Day through Labor Day, Museum of Glass is open seven days a week. Featured Artists work Mondays and Tuesdays, while Visiting Artists complete a five-day residency from Wednesday to Sunday.*

### **Summer Series Visiting and Featured Artists**

\*Artists presented in partnership with Pilchuck Glass School

#### **Featured Artists Alexandra VandeGriff and Brennan Kasperzak**

**May 30-31, June 6-7, 13-14, 20-21**

Alexandra VandeGriff is a glass bead maker and scientific glassblower. She has been a full-time glassblower since 2004. Her current body of artwork is focused on intricate scrollwork and linear patterns. VandeGriff is formally educated in glass, holding a degree in Scientific Glass Technology from Salem Community College. Brennan Kasperzak is a furnace glass artist, living and working in Seattle, Washington. Starting his career in 2002 at the Glass Axis in Columbus, OH, he went on to receive his BFA in glass from the Ohio State University in 2007. His current body of work focuses on mountain landscapes and developing innovative techniques for attaining mountain scenes in glass. Together, the two artists will collaborate on large blown vessels with intricate cane drawn pattern work, exploring different shapes and techniques by changing proportions and scale.

#### **Vivian Beer**

**June 1-5**

Vivian Beer is a furniture designer and maker based in New England. Her sleek, abstracted metal and concrete furniture combines the aesthetic sensibilities of contemporary design, craft, and sculpture to create objects that alter viewers' expectations of and interface with the domestic landscape. Her work is included in the collections of the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, and the Museum of Arts and Design. Beer recently won HGTV's *Ellen's Design Challenge* with her furniture designs.

#### **Ann Gardner**

**June 8-12**

Although her work is large in scale, Ann Gardner describes her pieces as quiet and simple. She began experimenting with glass as an artist-in-residence at Pilchuck Glass School in Stanwood, Washington, and this led to creating freestanding, wall-mounted, and hanging sculptures embedded with pieces of glass. During her residency, Gardner is excited to explore different possibilities while working in hot glass and connecting the material to her current work.

#### **Nick Mount and Richard Marquis**

**June 22-26**

Nick Mount has been one of the leading figures in the Australian Studio Glass movement since the early 1970s. Mount was introduced to Venetian traditions by the American contemporary studio glass artist Richard Marquis, who was one of the first Americans to work in the renowned Venini factory in Murano, Italy, and came to Australia in the early 1970s to demonstrate glassblowing. Friends and collaborators for over 40 years, Mount and Marquis look forward to experimenting together in the Museum of Glass Hot Shop.

**Alexandra Cannon**

**June 27-28, July 4-5, 11-12, 18-19**

Alexandra Cannon grew up in Evergreen, Colorado. Being surrounded by the beautiful symmetry of nature later inspired and influenced her work as a glass artist. In 2006, she relocated to Seattle in order to further her education and skills as a glass maker. Over the years she has learned and explored many different techniques and processes in glassblowing, but has mostly come to focus on intricate cane and murrine in her own work.

**Claire Cowie\***

**July 6-10**

Claire Cowie lives and works in Seattle. She received a BFA from Washington University in St. Louis in 1997 and an MFA from the University of Washington, Seattle, in 1999. Cowie is represented by the James Harris Gallery, Seattle, and the Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland. She has been awarded the Pollock-Krasner Grant and several fellowships from Washington State Arts Commission, Artist Trust, Seattle Office of Arts and Culture, and the Behnke Foundation.

**Karen Willenbrink-Johnsen**

**July 13-17**

Karen Willenbrink-Johnsen was raised in southwest Ohio. Her upbringing encouraged her love of nature, with much of her childhood spent exploring the woods. Willenbrink-Johnsen's connection with nature is a strong inspiration for her work, which focuses on the complex interaction between animals and humans. Attending venues such as dog shows, rodeos, or bird-watching expeditions also spark her creativity.

**Davide Salvatore\***

**July 20-24**

Davide Salvatore was born into a family of glassworkers in Murano, Italy. At a very early age he began following his grandfather into Murano's furnaces, learning how to build kilns and work glass. In 1987, he founded his own studio, where he operates kilns he built himself, mixing flame work and furnace techniques in new ways. Salvatore will use his residency to create work for an upcoming exhibition, which will be on display at MOG in 2018.

**Morgan Peterson**

**July 25-26, August 1-2, 8-9**

Morgan Peterson studied at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. After completing a dual degree, she moved to Seattle in 2007 to fulfill a career in glass. During her residency, Peterson will be working on a series of objects inspired by everyday artifacts, which will then be engraved in a traditional cameo style. The engravings will reference current cultural issues, including religion and politics.

**Dan Mirer and Peter Drobny\***

**August 3-7**

Peter Drobny is an innovator–problem solver. A graduate of Rhode Island School of Design, over the past 35 years he has worked on special projects for the Architect of the Capitol, James Carpenter, Corning Museum of Glass, and Steuben Glass Works. Dan Mirer studied at Alfred University, Pukeberg School of Design, Sweden, and Rochester Institute of Technology. An independent designer and glass maker focusing on tableware and home decor, he lives in Corning, New York.

**Hilltop Artists**

**August 10-14**

In response to growing need in the community, artist and Tacoma-native Dale Chihuly co-founded Hilltop Artists with Kathy Kaperick in 1994. For over 20 years, Hilltop Artists has been transforming the lives of youth through the power of art, adult mentorship, and wrap-around services.

### **Jason Christian**

**August 15-16, 22-23, 29-30 and September 5-6**

Jason Christian's body of work features sculptures inspired by the colors, traditions, and rich history of the Venetian island of Burano. Through interpretations of ancient Venetian glassblowing techniques, mid-century Venini designs, and contemporary color palettes, he creates a juxtaposition of old meets new. His detailed filigree patterns acknowledge the artistry of Burano lace, which dates back to 1528. In all of his new works, Christian demonstrates his masterful understanding of scale, form, symmetry, and pattern.

### **Patrick Martin**

**August 17-21**

Patrick Martin infuses socio-political themes in his mixed media sculptures to create a discourse between form, space, and content. He has received numerous awards and grants while maintaining a national exhibition record. This will be Martin's second residency at Museum of Glass.

### **Bryan Kekst Brown**

**August 24-28**

Bryan Kekst Brown is an artist from Ohio, currently working out of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Involvement in the arts has been a constant, whether in woodworking, mixed media, or metalwork. His artwork is inspired by chemical processes, and during his residency he will be working on creating a series of containers for modified neon electrodes which will be large enough to wear.

### **Brenden Fernandes**

**Fuel Their Fire IV residency sponsored by Anne Kroecker and Richard Leeds**

**August 31 – September 4**

Brenden Fernandes is a Canadian artist of Kenyan and Indian descent whose work was recently included in *Disguise: Masks and Global African Art* at Seattle Art Museum. His residency will be inspired dance. "Glass is the perfect material to illustrate dance and movement. The molten material is constantly in a state of motion...I want to use blowing, slumping, and casting techniques to make organic objects and forms that will suggest dance positions, gestures, and movements," shares Fernandes.

Museum of Glass is sponsored in part by the City of Tacoma Arts Commission, ArtsFund, The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, and The Dimmer Family Foundation.



### **Hours and Admission**

Museum and Store open Wednesday through Saturday 10 am to 5 pm, Third Thursdays 10 am to 8 pm, and Sundays 12 pm to 5 pm until Memorial Day. Closed Monday and Tuesday. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Open Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Presidents' Day. Museum and Store open Monday through Sunday during Summer months, Memorial Day through Labor Day. Open Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day.

Admission is free for members, \$15 general, \$12 seniors, military and students (13+ with ID), \$13 AAA Members, \$12 groups of 20 or more, \$10 groups of 50 or more, and \$5 for children (6-12) years old. Children under 5 are admitted free. Admission is free every third Thursday of the month from 5 pm to 8 pm.

Info Line 253-284-4750/ 1-866-4MUSEUM  
Museum of Glass, 1801 Dock Street Tacoma, WA 98402  
[www.museumofglass.org](http://www.museumofglass.org)



###