

LE STANZE DEL VETRO

A project of Fondazione Giorgio Cini and Pentagram Stiftung

Venice, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore

11 January 2021, 6 pm (CET)

Live on the Fondazione Giorgio Cini YouTube channel

International conference

***Venice and American Studio Glass:
international artists and experts discuss the movement
that arose in the 1960s and revolutionised art glass***

This online meeting has been organised by the Glass Study Centre, the richest archive of 20th-century Venetian glass. The Studio Glass movement is also being shown in the exhibition at LE STANZE DEL VETRO, which can be enjoyed on a free 3D virtual tour until March 2021.



The international conference *Venice and American Studio Glass*, promoted by the Glass Study Centre, is scheduled for **Monday 11 January 2021 at 6 pm** (CET) live on the Fondazione Giorgio Cini YouTube channel. The conference will explore the background to the Studio Glass movement, founded in the United States in the 1960s, which saw glass progressively become a revitalised medium and means of expression for the creativity of American artists.

The conference will also highlight the importance of the ongoing exhibition in LE STANZE DEL VETRO, curated by **Tina Oldknow** and **William Warmus**, which can be seen in a 3D virtual tour online until March 2021 (www.lestanzedelvetro.org; free online guided tours are also available by appointment).

After welcoming remarks **Luca Massimo Barbero**, Director of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini Foundation Institute of Art History, curators **Tina Oldknow** and **William Warmus** will start proceedings by introducing the exhibition *Venice and American Studio Glass* and conversing with master glassmaker **Lino Tagliapietra**, one of the first Murano glassblowers to go to the United States, and gallery owner **Katya Heller**. This will be followed by discussions with several American artists who have exhibited at LE STANZE DEL VETRO: **Kim Harty** will moderate the dialogue between **Norwood Viviano** and **Deborah Czeresko**; **William Warmus** will be moderator with **Preston Singletary** and **Raven Skyriver**; and **Tina Oldknow** will chair the meeting involving **Flora Mace**, **Joey Kirkpatrick**, **Tina Aufiero** and **Kait Rhoads**. The concluding remarks will be made by collector and art historian **David Landau**.

In the mid-20th century, the laboratories of the Toledo Museum of Art developed a growing interest in glassblowing techniques. A key factor in this new development was the powerful influence that traditional Venetian techniques, and therefore Murano aesthetics, exercised on the study and unexpected evolution of glass in contemporary art. It was this context that then led to a significant path of technical and cultural knowledge being taken to free glass production from industrial processes and to foster experimental innovation, encouraging the use of much livelier artistic languages. The great impact of Venetian glassmaking was due to its use by illustrious masters, such as **Dale Chihuly**, **Benjamin Moore**, **Dante Marioni**, **William Morris** and **Lino**

Tagliapietra, who steered experimental developments towards non-traditional paths, radically influencing artists and designers of the new generation.

The Glass Study Centre

Founded in 2012 within the Institute of Art History of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, the Glass Study Centre – with its over **150,000** designs, drawings, sketches and original final projects – pursues the aim of studying and **promoting Venetian art glass** in all its modern and contemporary forms. The Centre thus sets out to once more give glass a prominent position on the Italian and international art scene, by highlighting its potential through exhibitions, conferences, publications and offering scholarships addressed to experts and researchers interested in the history, technology and future developments of this specific medium.

The main objectives of the Glass Study Centre include not only the cataloguing, conservation and online publication of the archives it has received or acquired and that are gradually increasing the overall wealth of the Glass Archive but also the consolidation of its **specialised library**, which already has over **2,300 titles**, including many uniquely available copies or first editions. Among its various initiatives, often in collaboration with universities, the Centre regularly organises series of meetings and guided tours conceived for schools of all levels.

The documentation mainly concerns the production of the most famous Venetian furnaces, such as **Aureliano Toso, Barovier Seguso e Ferro, M.V.M. Cappellin & C., Pauly & C – C.V.M, Seguso Vetri d'Arte, Società Veneziana Conterie, Vetrerie Antonio Salviati.**

The list of works boasts the names of some of the most celebrated glass designers, such as **Emmanuel Babled, Fulvio Bianconi, Luigi Scarpa Croce, Dino Martens, Flavio Poli, Ginny Ruffner, Carlo Scarpa, Peter Shire** and **Vinicio Vianello**, and has recently been enriched by donations from contemporary artists, such as **Giorgio Vigna, Silvano Rubino, Cristiano Bianchin** and the renowned Murano master **Pino Signoretto**. All of the Glass Centre's collections – books, graphic works and photographs – can be consulted by the public and some have already been the subject of exhibitions and publications.

Moreover, the multimedia collections concerning conferences, interviews with master glassmakers, art historians, artists and, last but not least, all the digital archives of the historic **Venini** furnace will soon be online.

For further information:

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