LE STANZE DEL VETRO

*A Project of Fondazione Giorgio Cini and Pentagram Stiftung*

Venice, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore

28 June 2021, 2.30 pm

Live streaming on the Fondazione Giorgio Cini YouTube channel

International study conference

***The Glass Ark. Animals in the Pierre Rosenberg Collection***

*The online meeting has been organised by the Glass Study Centre, the most important and largest archive of 20th-century Venetian glass*

*Pierre Rosenberg’s glass animals are also the subject of the exhibition at LE STANZE DEL VETRO, due to run until 1 November 2021*

On Monday 28 June 2021 at 2.30 pm, the international conference *The Glass Ark. Animals in the Pierre Rosenberg Collection,* promoted by the **Glass Study Centre**, is to be **live streamed** on the Fondazione Giorgio Cini YouTube channel.

The conference will analyse the significance of Murano glass production featuring the animal world. The excellent pieces on show at LE STANZE DEL VETRO until 1 November 2021 will be explored and described along with different, equally representative works gradually brought together over the years, resulting in the creation of a thoroughgoing “zoomorphic anthology”.

The **over twenty speakers** at the conference include art historians, curators, artists, glass designers and master glassmakers. They will bring their own perspectives to bear on the theme of the art of the glass *animalier* in various ways: from a critical-historical point of view; by describing specific design and creative experiences in the context of the glass furnaces; and by considering productions in fields such as comics, stage design and archives.

After the welcoming remarks by **Luca Massimo Barbero**, Director of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini Institute of Art History, **Pierre Rosenberg**, Honorary President-Director of the Musée du Louvre, Paris, will open the conference by telling the story of his collection. **Giordana Naccari** and **Cristina Beltrami**, the curators of the exhibition *The Glass Ark. Animals in the Pierre Rosenberg Collection*, will then describe how the project came into being and developed.

The next speakers will be **Claudia Casali**, who will discuss animal iconography in 20th-century art ceramics and **Stefania Cretella**, who will explore the imaginative and practical aspects of the ceramic zoo produced by Lenci. **Carla Sonego** will focus on Murano art glass, while **Maria-Luise Jesch**'s talk in English is entitled *Hagenauer Workshop. The functional change of animals*.

**Valerio Terraroli** will describe Sirio Tofanari and Felice Tosalli, two Italian *animalier* sculptors, while **Sabina Tutone** will present the *Zoomorphic Creativities at the Glass Study Centre*. She will be followed by **Marzia Scalon** who will investigate *Traces from the Seguso Art Glass Archive: bibelots, chimeras and “moon fish”*.

**Federico Bertolucci** will delve into "glass comics", while **Denise Carnini** and **Francesca Pedrotti** will describe how the current exhibition was installed, in a session entitled *Staging Animals: the spaces and interplay of places in the Glass Ark*.

After the break, **Gianni Seguso** will discuss the master glassmaker’s craft and **Giorgio Vigna** will explore *Contrasts and Harmonies*. **Felekshan Onar's** talk in English is entitled *Istanbul to Murano: A Glass Making Journey*, while **Marcantonio Brandolini d'Adda** will survey the new generation of glass artists. The conference will be brought to a close by **Isabelle Poilprez** in an intriguingly entitled talk, *Impregnated with glass, subtly anchored in Murano*, and the screening of a video by **Bruno Amadi**.

**The Glass Study Centre**

With over **150,000 original documents** and a **specialised library** of more than 2,000 books, the Glass Study Centre is the most important and largest archive of 20th-century Venetian glass.

Founded in 2012 within the Fondazione Giorgio Cini Institute Art History, the Glass Study Centre’s mission is to **study and promote** **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 and publications, and by offering scholarships addressed to experts and researchers interested in the history, technology and future developments of this specific medium.

The Centre’s main objectives are the **cataloguing**, **preservation** and **online publication** of the archives and collections it has received, which are gradually increasing the overall Glass Archive, and the expansion of its **specialised library**.

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,** and **Vetrerie Antonio Salviati**.

The list of documents 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**. In 2020 the Centre acquired the archives of 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 will soon be online. They feature conferences, interviews with master glassmakers, art historians, artists and, last but not least, all the digital archives of the historic Veninifurnace.

**For further information:**

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