

The CGS at New Ashgate Gallery, Farnham

An Exhibition of Joyful Reflections



by Pam Reekie

The Contemporary Glass Society is the leading organization representing national and international glass artists, designers, and makers in the UK. With over 1,000 members, the Society champions the work of independent makers through a variety of initiatives including holding exhibitions at leading galleries all over the country to highlight the glory of contemporary glass.

Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of Diverse Glass Art

As part of its 25th anniversary celebrations, CGS is delighted to be collaborating with the New Ashgate Gallery to present *Joyful Reflections*, which will open on April 30, 2022, and run through June 11, 2022. The exhibition will feature 15 exceptional makers working in a wide variety of glass techniques that include blown, cast, fused, engraved, and stained glass through a collective of sculptural and decorative work. The selected makers include Teresa Chlapowski, Hannah Gibson, Jianyong Guo, Laura Hart, Julie Light, Roberta Mason, Wendy Newhofer, Lisa Pettibone, Laura Quinn, Morag Reekie, Amy Skachill Burke, Nancy Sutcliffe, Cara Wassenberg, Frans Wesselman, and Sandra Young.

CGS members were invited to step back from the sadness of the pandemic and embrace the joy of life as we know it now. Artists were asked to reflect upon the glorious and mysterious properties of glass—its transparency, its uniqueness, the variety of techniques it offers, its ability to reflect back at us—and, most of all, to express joyful reflections on life and glass.

Laura Hart, Mary from the Rose Couture series. Photo by Simon Bruntnell.



(Top left) *Laura Quinn, Tacit Dimension.*
Photo by Sylvain Deleu.

(Top right) *Julie Light, Strange Creatures Posse.*
Photo by Robyn Manning.

(Bottom left) *Amelia Skachill Burke, Phyllostachys Aurea detail.* Photo by Simon Bruntnell.

Exploring the Unique Qualities of Glass

Susan Purser Hope, Chair of the Contemporary Glass Society, recently shared her thoughts on this upcoming exhibition. "This is CGS's first collaborative exhibition with the New Ashgate Gallery. We are excited by this wonderful opportunity for our members to show a range of work featuring vibrant colors and transparent forms reflecting upon the joyful moments that we have come to appreciate in everyday life. Glass is an amazing material to work with, and this is a glorious chance to raise its profile with the general public within the setting of this outstanding gallery."

Nicola Lightfoot, Curator of Glass for the New Ashgate Gallery, also expressed her thanks for this opportunity to work with CGS artists. "We are delighted to be collaborating with the Contemporary Glass Society to present an exhibition featuring 15 exceptional makers working in a variety of diverse glass techniques. The exhibition will highlight the luminous, reflective, and often illusional qualities of glass and will celebrate its unique ability to express fragility, rigidity, pattern, and form. We are excited to see how the makers will test the parameters of the material through their refined craft skills to create a variety of sculptural and decorative work." **GIA**

Visit www.cgs.org.uk for more information on the Contemporary Glass Society, its additional upcoming events, and how to become a member.

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