

Featuring the latest from the Contemporary Glass Society

A New Perspective at Glass Futures

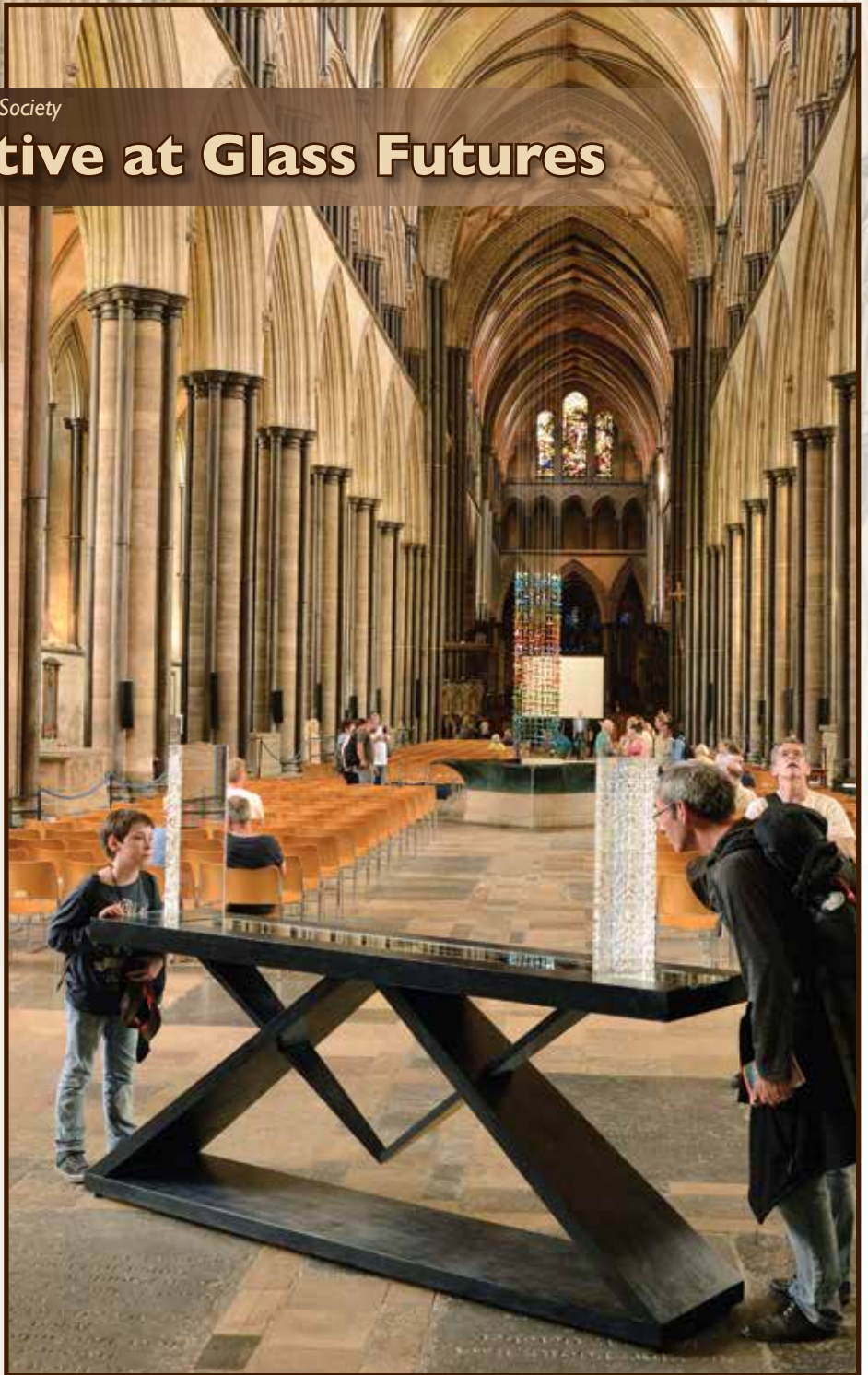
by Pam Reekie

The future of glass is being explored in St Helens, England, on a grand scale! Glass Futures is a global not-for-profit research and technology membership organization that connects the glass industry with academia to demonstrate disruptive technologies that will make glass and other materials zero-carbon and sustainable. Through their Global Centre of Excellence, they will be supporting organizations' sustainability journeys and the generation of new ideas that will have an impact all the way through the glass supply chain to the consumer.

To celebrate the opening of the center, *New Perspective*, a large cast glass, wood, and engraved mirror sculpture by Richard Jackson and Sally Fawkes, is sited in the welcoming reception of Glass Futures for the duration of 2024. Sally and Richard are both members of the Contemporary Glass Society (CGS), the UK's premier supporter and promoter of contemporary glass and glass artists, and Mark Holford—the newly elected Patron of CGS—instigated the installation.

The inception of *New Perspective* was a 2016 exhibition entitled *Reflection* at Salisbury Cathedral, one of Britain's finest medieval cathedrals. Richard and Sally were inspired by the technological advancements made at the time of building Salisbury Cathedral, which began in 1220, and the skill of the craftspeople whose marks you can see and touch in the fabric of the building. Alongside that, they responded to the cathedral's place as a center of inclusive reflection and its adaption to societal changes over the centuries.

New Perspective is comprised of two glass columns, each marked with its own history and language that are linked by a path of mirror, like a path of light. Reflections and refractions displace and multiply new images in new settings, showing new paths, new lines of sight, and new points of view. A new perspective opened out among the old.



The reception area at Glass Futures also houses a number of showcases. The CGS is delighted to be embarking on an ongoing program of rotating contemporary glass art pieces by members that reflect a range of different glassmaking techniques.

By working with CGS in exhibiting a range of contemporary glass art, Glass Futures is highlighting the future potential of commercial glass manufacturing, collaborating, and responding to art glasswork.



A Short Biography on Jackson and Fawkes

Richard Jackson and Sally Fawkes both studied BA Hons 3-Dimensional Design in Glass at Surrey Institute of Art and Design. Since 2000, they have worked as professional artists from their studio in Stroud, Gloucestershire, where they create their own individual sculptures and collaborate with other artists to create pieces with a third distinct voice. Both artists have an international exhibition profile and work to commission for private, corporate, and public spaces.

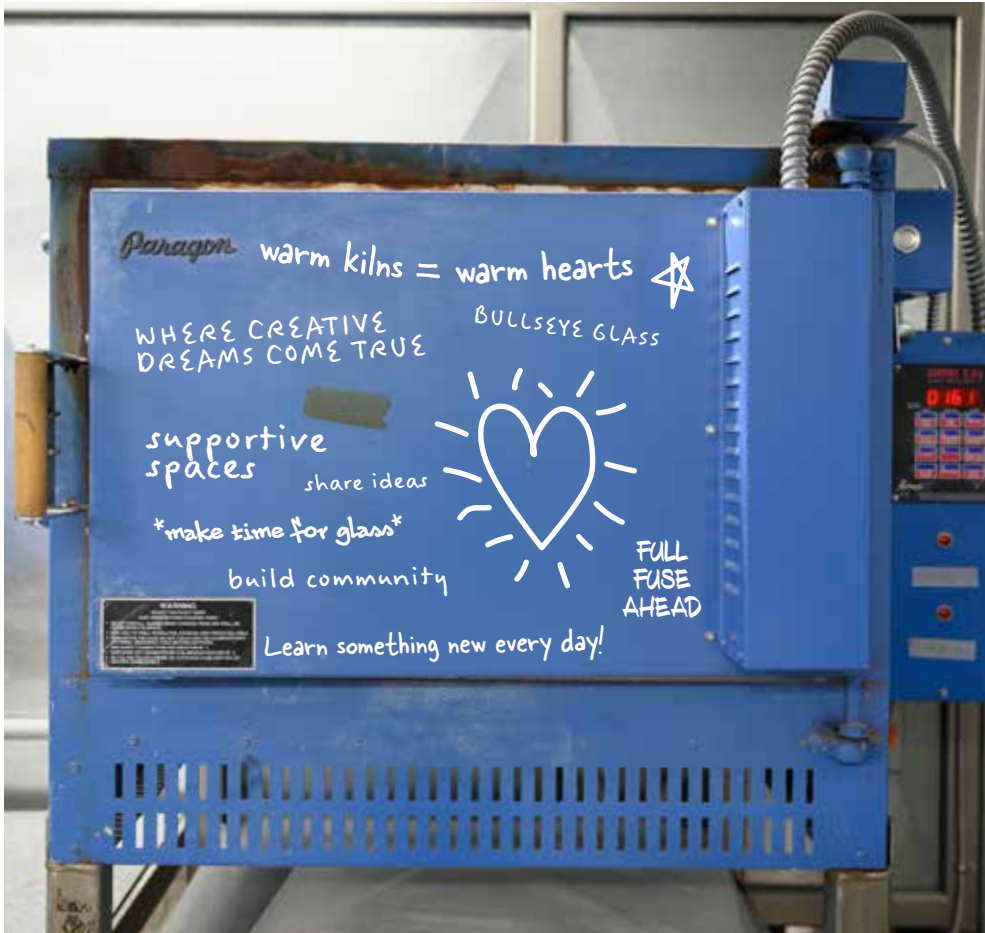
The year 2023 saw a major joint exhibition of their solo and collaborative glass sculptures, titled *Inhale Exhale*, at the internationally acclaimed Musée du Verre François Décorchemont, France. Their work is represented in collections globally, and both artists are elected members of the Royal Society of Sculptors.

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CGS is widely regarded as the foremost organization in the UK for promoting, supporting, and encouraging cutting-edge contemporary glass and glassmakers within the wider art world. Visit www.cgs.org.uk for more information on becoming a CGS member.



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