

*Featuring the latest from
the International Society of Glass Beadmakers*

The ISGB 2020 Gathering Welcoming Keynote Speaker Kit Paulson

by Karyn Sweezy

The International Society of Glass Beadmakers (ISGB) is proud to announce its 2020 Gathering Keynote Speaker Kit Paulson. Kit will provide us with incredible inspiration through her work as she brings together art, science, and the absurd. Her glass art will leave you breathless and curious for more. We are thrilled that she will share her journey with us at our annual Gathering during April 2–5, 2020, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Gathering will be held in conjunction with the Glass Craft & Bead Expo.



Kit Paulson, Skull.



Kit Paulson, Moth Mouth.

Exploring the Natural World in an Unnatural Way

Kit recently described her current body of work. “I am exploring the line between work that is highly decorative and downright bizarre. These pieces are heavily influenced by the Victorian aesthetic of using natural elements to construct quasi-scientific, wholly unnatural scenes that could not exist in the natural world. I want my viewers to look closer and be visually rewarded for that closer look. I want to communicate my own fascination with the incredible detail of the natural world and with the incredible detail that can be produced by the human hand.”



Kit Paulson, Telephone.

Anyone who works with glass will find inspiration with Kit's body of work that can be done in a flame. She states, "Much of the process of making my work involves using hot, liquid glass as a sculptural material. For me, the manipulation of hot glass is a joyous exercise of muscle memory, material understanding, and instantaneous reaction to the peculiarities of the substance."

"I work with glass as a sculptural medium, because it allows me to make detailed, precious, fragile objects. I value glass for its inherent aesthetic properties in which it can be transparent, translucent, shiny, hard, or easily broken. I also value it for the way it has historically been used to make containers, vessels, lenses, mirrors, and other items. I find constant inspiration in both of the attributes of the material."

Kit's Current Work

We highly recommend that you visit www.kitpaulson.com to view Paulson's current work. One of the things you'll find is *The Magpie Museum of Disorderly Inquiry*, a collection of objects, all made from glass and arranged in the style of a cabinet of curiosities, or *wunderkammer*.

The objects are based on real things, but they are not exact replicas. Each is a small vignette, an impression of an object, rather than an attempt to rigorously render reality. The manmade objects in this collection are from the past, but rarely a specific past.

Additional Presenters at The 2020 Gathering

In addition to Kit Paulson, ISGB is excited to share an amazing lineup of presenters that are sure to inspire and educate. Sharon Peters, Corinna Horsell/Bullseye Glass, Floor Kaspers, Marcy Lamberson, Patty Lakinsmith, Kerri Fuhr, Kristin Kearns, Tatyana Boyarinova, Brooke Hamling, Bronwen Heilman, Caitlin Hyde, and Alexx Cheng will all be sharing ways to help you take your flameworking to a new level.

For the first time, ISGB attendees will be sharing their love of glass and opening up the keynote address to the Glass Craft & Bead Expo attendees. We hope to bridge the two worlds and use each other's knowledge to complement and expand our glass visions. ISGB is inviting all in attendance in Las Vegas to learn more about our organization and our mission to educate. Please join us in welcoming Kit Paulson on Thursday, April 2 at 4:00 p.m. Let's be inspired together!

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Visit www.isgbgathering.org to learn more about this exciting conference.

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