

# The AGG at the Washington National Cathedral



Featuring the latest from the American Glass Guild

Text and Photography by Tony Glander

The American Glass Guild (AGG) is looking forward to its upcoming conference to be held in Washington, D.C. One day during the event will be held at the Washington National Cathedral and will celebrate one of America's most acclaimed stained glass monuments. On Saturday, June 20, 2015, the AGG and the cathedral will present a number of activities, some for members and others for the public. It promises to be a day filled with memorable events, speakers and, of course, stained glass.

AGG conference attendees will participate in tours, attend speaker presentations, and get a great view of some of the Cathedral's windows. From the first windows made for the Bethlehem Chapel in 1912 by the London firm of Kempe and Company to the Rowan LeCompte clerestory window installed in 2014 by Mary Clerkin Higgins, this amazing collection spans a century and encompasses many different styles and subjects.

## The Annual Juried Show

During the conference, the AGG's annual juried show *American Glass Now: 2015* will have its official opening in the Pilgrim's Observation Gallery at the Cathedral. The work of 17 artists that was selected for the show included glass art by Kathy Barnard, Joseph Cavalieri, Saara Gallin, Tony Glander, Nancy Gong, Mary Clerkin Higgins, Ken Leap, Ellen Mandelbaum, Sean Merchant, Troy Moody, Nancy Nicholson, Scott Ouderkirk, Nick Parrendo, Marie Foucault Phipps, Rick Prigg, Patrice Schelkun and Amy Valuck.

For the second year the jury will award a maximum of three "AGNX Awards for Excellence in the Art of Stained Glass" at the conference. The distinguished members of the jury panel include:

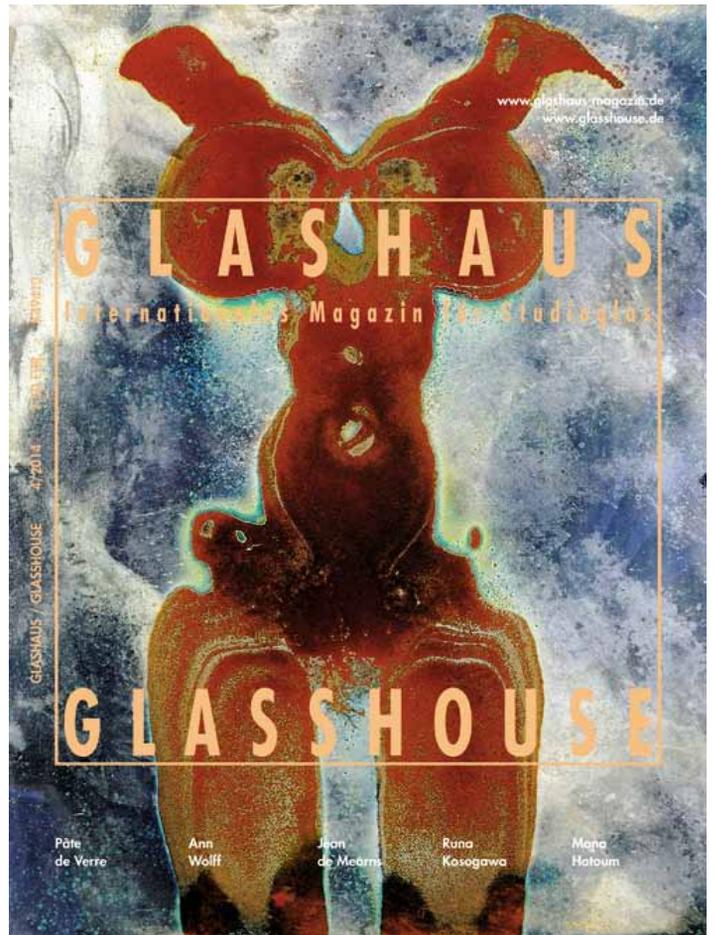
- Dr. Virginia Raguin, Professor of Art History at the College of the Holy Cross,
- Judith Schaechter, Artist and Educator at Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, The University of the Arts, and the New York Academy of Art, and
- Cynthia Williams, Director of the Smithsonian-Mason MA in the History of Decorative Arts.



CZ Lawrence, The Raising of Lazarus.



Brenda Belfield, Methusaluh window.



## Rewards for Eyes and Ears

Brenda Belfield will speak about her stained glass at the Cathedral, and CZ Lawrence will share humorous stories of his windows and experiences there. Besides the incredible body of stained glass, the building itself is an impressive piece of art. From graceful stonework such as Frederick Hart's tympanum, *The Creation of Day*, to intricate wrought iron, such as the Godart Gate, the Cathedral holds a multitude of rewards for an artist's eyes!

The AGG, in cooperation with the Cathedral, will host an open house all day Saturday to increase the public's awareness of stained glass. Displays about the process, along with interactive demonstrations of painting, fabrication, and design will educate the public on the materials as well as the amount of work and skill that goes into creating a window. Activities for all ages are planned to help raise the public's appreciation for this incredible art form.

Lectures at the conference hotel and area tours round out the stained glass experience. The American Glass Guild's 2015 Conference has a host of activities, speakers, and workshops that promise to awe and inspire members and the public in so many different ways!

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Visit [www.americanglassguild.org](http://www.americanglassguild.org) to learn more about AGG and for details on the organization's upcoming events.

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