



## A GLANCE AT GLASS

May 2020

The *Glass Alliance of Northern California* is a non-profit organization whose mission is to further the development and appreciation of art made from glass.

[www.GLANCinfo.org](http://www.GLANCinfo.org)

### Message from the President

2020 has taken an unexpected turn for all of us, and as we navigate the year going forward, it requires a new outlook, renewed strength, and community.

GLANC is responding to the change in community dynamics brought about by the COVID19 crisis, by offering a way for our members to get together online. This will be accomplished via the Zoom platform, and will allow us to maintain our connections with one another at a time when we need them most.

While viewpoints differ on the length of this crisis and what the future holds, one thing is certain...what we support now, determines what will remain as our community and economy recovers. If we value art, lending the art community the support it needs, is critical to its survival. Artists and art organizations alike, have been upended by the inability to create, share, and sell art. Organizations that rely on community events and activities, exhibitions, and other means of community outreach, are scrambling to find new approaches in this new era.

One thing is clear -- while the solutions will vary, the conclusion is the same -- the art world needs us to care about its survival. **GLANC is helping in this effort, by donating \$5,000 to the Glass Art Society, that will be earmarked for Emergency Relief Grants for Northern California Artists.** Art has long been recognized as therapeutic, and we are truly in a position now, where art can heal, uplift, inspire and give strength. I encourage you to join us in supporting the arts organizations and artists that you care about, so we can come out of this crisis stronger than we came in....so we can see a future

with art as a cornerstone in society that is valued and supported, for it is truly one space we can enter where we can all feel safe.

I am wishing all of you the very best during this difficult time, and want every one of you to know, you have a community of people you can count on. Don't be afraid to reach out, and stay strong and stay safe!

Best,

Demetra Theofanous

President, Glass Alliance of Northern California

### A Warm Welcome to our New GLANC Members!

Marty Appel, Paul Messink, Jill Garfinkle

### UPCOMING EVENT:

**JOIN US FOR "GLANC CONNECTIONS" -**

**a GLANC online GET TOGETHER on MAY 16 at 5PM, using the Zoom platform!**

**An email with a link will be sent to you!**

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## PAUL MESSINK: MAESTRO EVENT

[Demetra Theofanous]

Paul Messink was invited by GLANC to participate in our Maestro Program in February. We held our event at Bullseye Glass in Emeryville, where Paul also had a number of his new works on display for our group.



New member Jill Garfinkle with John Bell

He took us through a bit of his life's journey, and shared with us the techniques behind his incredible works. He creates hand-painted, multi-layered glass panels, that exhibit nature in a way where it has depth and dimension. This helps him to achieve his goal of drawing the viewer into the scenes he creates.



"The Green Mile" by Paul Messink

He typically uses anywhere from 9-12 layers of glass to create his works, embedding the painted surfaces so they are then magnified when the layers are fused together.



GLANC President Demetra Theofanous with Maestro Artist Paul Messink and GLANC member Jim Della

It was a joy to meet Paul and hear about his love for nature and his art, and he has also now joined GLANC as a new member! Thank you and welcome Paul!

## IN MEMORIAM: JAROSLAVA BRYCHTOVA

[Demetra Theofanous]

The contemporary glass world lost an icon on April 8, when Jaroslava Brychtová passed away at the age of 95 in the Czech Republic.



Jaroslava Brychtová

She was the wife and artistic partner of Stanislav Libenský. Brychtová was a sculptor, and met her husband in 1954. He was originally a painter, and they came together in creating sculptural works in glass. They married in 1963 and worked together until Libenský's death in 2002.

Jaroslava was one of the greatest talents to work in glass, and a driving force in creating works that were distinct, iconic, and instrumental in changing the way glass has been viewed as an artistic medium. The mark of both Jaroslava and Stanislav Libenský will not be forgotten, and the beauty of their works will forever live on.

To see an exhibition of work by Libensky/Brychtová from the Cafesjian Center for the arts, [click here](#) .

For other YouTube videos, [click here](#) for one from CMoG, and [here](#) and [here](#) for two others.

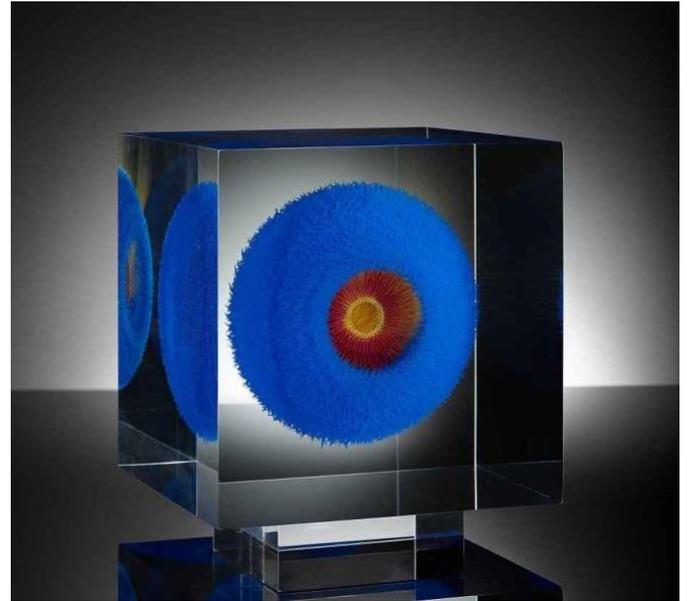
### **WILFRIED GROOTENS at MONTAGUE GALLERY** *[Demetra Theofanous]*

The first solo exhibition of the year at Montague Gallery, was by artist Wilfried Grootens. Wilfried was born in a small town in the German countryside and at the age of 15 began training as a glass and porcelain painter. After attending design school and freelancing as an artist for several studios, he revisited his glass work and began to experiment with some new ideas. This time led to his career as a glass artist and he now exhibits all over the world.

He is an artist that also works by combining layers and layers of flat glass to create his works, but in a different way and with a very different result.



His cubes, spheres, and flat panels, create dimension through the layering of painted images, and the works are then polished to a high gloss finish. They allow the viewer to see the piece from so many different angles, and to immerse themselves in the visions he creates in glass.



"Where the Shark Bubbles Blow" by Wilfried Grootens



Wilfried Grootens with GLANC Member Janne Wissel



Wilfried Grootens, with GLANC members Gabrielle Miller and Latchezar Boyadjiev

## **GLANC OFFERS EMERGENCY GRANTS FOR ARTISTS**

*[Demetra Theofanous]*

Artists are really struggling right now and it was really important to me and the GLANC Board to be able to do something to make a difference. I am thrilled to announce that GLANC is funding \$5,000 in grants for Northern California Artists! We have made a donation to the Glass Arts Society, that will earmark our funds for Northern California artists, as an Emergency Relief Grant to help those in financial need.

*(As always, our Conflict of Interest Policy will be observed, and none of our Artist Board Members, or family of Board Members, will be eligible for these grants).*

## **ARTIST RESOURCES: COVID19**

*[Demetra Theofanous]*

I, like many of you, am overwhelmed by the amount of emails offering advice for artists on how to navigate COVID19. There is information coming from so many sources, and we don't want to add to the information overload by replicating what is already out there. We feel it will be more helpful to amplify the efforts of other organizations that are maintaining lists of artist resources that can be helpful. Please view the following links, for updates on resources for artists:

<https://www.sba.gov>

<https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-topic/disaster-preparedness/coronavirus-covid-19-resource-and-response-center>

<https://springboardforthearts.org/coronavirus/>

<https://www.glassart.org/resources/emergency-relief/>

<https://cerfplus.org>

## **EXPLORE ARTS & CULTURE FROM HOME**

*[Demetra Theofanous]*

Explore art museums and exhibitions from the comfort of your couch! While we're practicing social distancing, Google Arts and Culture has teamed up with museums and galleries from around the world to provide us with virtual tours and online exhibitions of some of the best. Click [here](#) to enjoy the virtual tour!

## **GLANC Artist Member News**

**Mark Abildgaard at the Museum of Northern California Art**, "Unbroken Legacies: Northern California Art Glass"; Now extended through July 2020.

**Dean Bensen at the Museum of Northern California Art**; "Unbroken Legacies: Northern California Art Glass"; Now extended through July 2020.

**Dean Bensen at San Jose City Hall**; "Fragile Beauty: The Enigma of Glass"; Opens Jan 1; San Jose, CA

**Dean Bensen via Duncan McClellan Gallery** at Creative Pinellas in "Glass in the Gallery". Now extended through September, in Largo, FL

**Susan Bloch was selected for the Victor Thomas Jacoby award for 2019.** The award is granted by the Humboldt Area Foundation.

**Sylvia Chesson at Abrams Claghorn Gallery** in "The Ground Upon Which We Stand"; Regional Juried Exhibition available for viewing online until May 31

**Cheryl Derricotte was awarded the Windgate Artist Fellowship** at the Vermont Studio Center; she will have a 4 week residency in 2021.

**Cheryl Derricotte at the Museum of Northern California Art**; "Unbroken Legacies: Northern

California Art Glass"; Now extended through July 2020.

**Demetra Theofanous in Habatat Gallery's** 48th Annual Invitational Exhibition; this will be held online this year, as Habatat Direct

**Demetra Theofanous at the Museum of Northern California Art;** "Unbroken Legacies: Northern California Art Glass"; Now extended through July 2020.

**Demetra Theofanous via Duncan McClellan** at Creative Pinellas in "Glass in the Gallery". Now extended through September in Largo, FL.

**Demetra Theofanous at San Jose City Hall;** "Fragile Beauty: The Enigma of Glass"; Opens Jan 1; San Jose, CA

**Mary White at the Museum of Northern California Art;** "Unbroken Legacies: Northern California Art Glass"; Now extended through July 2020.

**\*\* A reminder to all GLANC Member Artists - help us help you! Remember to submit your artist news by the end of Dec., March, June, and Sept. to have it included in the quarterly newsletter! All submissions should be directed to [gincweebler@gmail.com](mailto:gincweebler@gmail.com). To be included you must put "Newsletter Artist Member News" in the subject line, and list your name, exhibition/award title, exhibition venue, and dates in your email.**

## OTHER HAPPENINGS

### *GLASS ART SOCIETY'S FREE CONFERENCE:*

The Glass Art Society's Sweden conference was cancelled this year. As a result, they will be having a virtual conference online FOR FREE and open to the public! To look at the conference schedule visit the link here:

<https://www.glassart.org/conference/2020-virtual-conference/>

## OTHER RESOURCES

Please visit these websites to stay up to date on glass events and exhibits both in the Bay Area, and around the country!

- Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass: [www.contempglass.org](http://www.contempglass.org)
- Bay Area Glass Institute: [www.bagi.org](http://www.bagi.org)
- Bullseye Gallery: [www.bullseyegallery.com](http://www.bullseyegallery.com)
- The Crucible: [www.thecrucible.org](http://www.thecrucible.org)
- Glass Art Society: [www.glassart.org](http://www.glassart.org)
- Habatat Galleries: [www.habatat.com](http://www.habatat.com)
- Montague Gallery: [www.montaguegallerysf.com](http://www.montaguegallerysf.com)
- Pilchuck Glass School: [www.pilchuck.com](http://www.pilchuck.com)
- Public Glass: [www.publicglass.org](http://www.publicglass.org)