

MEDIA RELEASE



Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery • 25 Caroline Street North • Waterloo ON N2L 2Y5 • 519.746.1882

25th Anniversary Exhibition Opens at The Clay & Glass

WATERLOO (ONTARIO) CANADA. April 5, 2018: The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery launches its 25th Anniversary Exhibition with a series of weekend events: an Artist Talk by Irene Frolic on Saturday April 7, followed by the opening reception of *Then, Now and Next* on Sunday April 8, and a preview of the satellite exhibition *Chronicle: 25 Years at the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery*.

25th Anniversary

Since opening in June of 1993, The Clay & Glass has been a vital part of the community. While the focus of the 25th Anniversary celebrations will take place in June, the Gallery is acknowledging the milestone with special events, exhibitions and programs throughout 2018.

Then, Now and Next

The Gallery's 25th Anniversary exhibition, *Then, Now and Next* is an invitational show curated by Sheila McMath. It features six acclaimed Canadian artists: Samantha Dickie, Susan Edgerley, Irene Frolic, Zachari Logan, Audie Murray and Peter Powning. The exhibition celebrates artists at various stages of their careers. Some have a long history with the Gallery; all are making their mark in contemporary ceramics and glass.

Established artists Susan Edgerley and Irene Frolic, both members of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, use glass for its inherent metaphorical references to the ethereal qualities of life and its fragility. Their work also utilizes the poetic potential of glass to speak about the human condition and the ephemeral beauty of the natural world. Edgerley and Frolic were both participants in the Gallery's inaugural exhibition and we are pleased to invite them back to celebrate their accomplished careers.

Artist Peter Powning, recipient of the Saidye Bronfman Award in 2006, is engaged in experimentation with many different materials including ceramic, glass, stone and bronze. Powning's practice encompasses work at various scales from small vessels to large sculptural objects to public installation. Powning is viewed as an inspirational leader for his study of the 'elemental' aspects of materials, his technical proficiency and the way that his practice appears to move fluidly and seamlessly among various media. Contemporary ceramic artist Samantha Dickie has received attention and acclaim for the quiet power of her installations. For this exhibition, Dickie will debut a new work made of over one thousand porcelain components. Her work encourages viewers to carefully observe subtle variations of handmade objects and to pause in her immersive environments.

Zachari Logan and Audie Murray have been invited to participate in this exhibition to represent the expansive, interdisciplinary approach embodied by many 'next' generation artists. Logan's work, *Fountain*, is made of multiple, intricately sculpted ceramic flowers,

accumulated and assembled into a monumental column. The artist adds new ceramic flowers each time he exhibits the work, continuing his meditations on mortality, memory and loss. Audie Murray is a multi-disciplinary Métis artist who has received attention for her integration of floral bead work on common, everyday objects. In Murray's work, *Fragments of Language*, viewers will be greeted in three languages - French, Cree and Michif. Murray's work will encourage viewers to consider the simultaneous fragility and resilience of culture, language and nature.

A significant ceramic work by Tony Urquhart will pay tribute to Jacques Israelievitch, a longtime collector and supporter of ceramic artists.

An integral part of this exhibition is also the *In Memoriam* section, which features work from the Gallery's collection, and pays tribute to the makers of ceramic, glass and enamel art who we have lost over the last 25 years.

The Gallery's 25th Anniversary events have been financially assisted by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund, a program of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, administered by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund Corporation.

Join us for an Artist Talk with Irene Frolic on April 7 at 7:30pm and the Opening Reception on April 8 at 2:00pm. The artists will be in attendance. These events are free and all are welcome.

Chronicle: 25 Years at the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery

Curated by Tsukiko Keogh & Andrew Bucsis, this exhibition invites visitors to explore the archives of The Clay & Glass as it celebrates a quarter century of silica arts. Unearthed from the vaults, this exhibit reflects on 25 years of the people and events that have shaped the Gallery's history. The exhibition will be held at the City of Waterloo Visitor and Heritage Information Centre, located at 10 Father David Bauer Drive, Waterloo. A preview of this exhibition will be available on April 8 at 2:00pm. The exhibition officially opens to the public on May 5, 2018.

This exhibition has been made possible in part by contributions from the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund, the City of Waterloo, and The Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation.

Both exhibitions continue to September 2, 2018. Learn more about the exhibitions and artists at www.theclayandglass.ca/current-exhibitions.

Contact:

Katherine Ronzio, Manager of Development & Marketing
marketing@theclayandglass.ca • 519.746.1882 ext. 235

Hours:

Monday to Friday 11 am to 6 pm; Saturday 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday 1 pm to 5 pm

Twitter: @CdnClayandGlass

Instagram: @CdnClayandGlass

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theclayandglass