

MEDIA RELEASE



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

The Clay & Glass Reopens with a Weekend of Celebrations

WATERLOO (ONTARIO) CANADA. January 8, 2018: The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery is ready to welcome the community back after being partially closed for renovations since early September. On January 13 and 14, the Gallery will host two major events: the Glass and Ceramics Awards Ceremony and the Opening Reception of the winter 2018 exhibition, *Trajectories*. This will also mark the official launch of the Gallery's 25th Anniversary year.

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.

Celebrating Emerging Artists

On Saturday, January 13 at 7:30pm, the Gallery will present the 2017 Award for Glass and Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics. The Gallery is pleased to announce that Zimra Beiner has won the 2017 Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics and Montserrat Duran Muntadas has won the 2017 Award for Glass. The ceremony will also feature brief artist talks by each of the winners as well as the first winner of each award: Susan Collett who won the Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics in 2001 and Julia Reimer who won the RBC Award for Glass in 2008.

The 2017 Award for Glass is funded by a group of Gallery supporters. The Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics is supported by the Keith and Winifred Shantz Fund for the Arts, held at The Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation.

The winner of the 2017 Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics is Zimra Beiner from Calgary, Alberta. Beiner studied ceramics at Sheridan College, NSCAD University and received an MFA from Alfred University in 2012. His work has been exhibited throughout the United States and Canada, including exhibitions at the David Winton Bell Gallery at Brown University, Cross Mackenzie Gallery, and the Gardiner Museum. Recent honours include the NCECA Emerging Artist Award and nomination for the RBC Emerging Artist Award in Ceramics; recent residencies include The Berlin Ceramics Centre, Germany, and Private Studio Jingdezhen, China. He is currently Assistant Professor in ceramics at the Alberta College of Art + Design in Calgary.

The winner of the 2017 Award for Glass is Montserrat Duran Muntadas, a Catalan-born artist living in Montreal, Quebec. In 2010, she graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts at the Universitat de Barcelona and in 2007, from the Escuela del Vidrio of the Real Fabrica de Cristales de La Granja, Centro Nacional del Vidrio of Segovia, Spain. Over the years, she has participated in more than 30 national and international group exhibitions including: the SOFA

Chicago 2016, the European Glass Context 2016 in Denmark and the European Glass Festival 2015 in Poland. Also, she was a finalist and laureate of several awards such as an award from FUSION: The Ontario Clay and Glass Association and the Bourse ForCGal. Currently, her works which combine glass with other materials - such as paper, fabric or diverse organic materials - often take the form of wearable art, sculptures and art installations.

Learn more about the Awards at www.theclayandglass.ca/awards

***Trajectories* Exhibition**

The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery is pleased to present its next exhibition, *Trajectories*, celebrating 10 years of the Award for Glass. Curated by Sheila McMath, the exhibition opens on Sunday, January 14, 2018 with a reception at 2:00pm and remarks at 2:30. Some of the exhibiting artists will be in attendance. This event is free and all are welcome.

Trajectories presents the works of seven artists who won the RBC Award for Glass between 2008 and 2016. They are Benjamin Kikkert, Ito Laïla Le François, Aaron Oussoren, Julia Reimer, Brad Turner, Cheryl Wilson Smith, and Rachael Wong. The exhibition will feature new work by these artists, illustrating the growth in their artistic practice and output stimulated by winning the prestigious award.

These artists, in addition to sharing the distinction of winning the RBC Award for Glass, also share a commitment to the exploration of glass as an experimental and seductive medium. While some of the artists in this exhibition make use of traditional glass manipulation techniques including casting, blowing, sandblasting and pâte de verre, others incorporate investigation of 3D printing and digital manufacturing methods into their practice.

This exhibition has been made possible in part by a contribution from The Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation – Musagetes Fund.

Trajectories continues to March 18. Learn more about the exhibitions and artists at www.theclayandglass.ca/current-exhibitions.

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With an emphasis on supporting the work of Canadian ceramic and glass artists, the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery presents exhibitions that challenge ideas and perceptions of the definitions of art, craft and design today. The Gallery's public programs offer multiple pathways for engagement with contemporary artworks and art-making practices. The Gallery Shop is recognized on its own merits as a fine-craft gallery, showing the best of Canadian ceramic and glass work. Housing a collection of historical and contemporary Canadian ceramic, glass and enamel art, the Gallery is proud to conserve and promote an active component of Canada's rich cultural heritage.

Hours:

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

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