

MEDIA RELEASE



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The Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery Announces 2013 RBC and Shantz Award Winners

WATERLOO (ONTARIO) CANADA. November 9, 2013: The Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery announced the winners of the 2013 Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics and RBC Award for Glass at an Awards ceremony held at the Gallery on November 9. The ceremony featured keynote speaker Marie A. Côté, a Montreal artist who delivered a riveting talk about her ceramic and sound installations that evoke Canada's Arctic. This work was at the heart of her exhibition, *Of Vessels and Voices*, held at the Gallery June 27 to September 1, 2013.

The winner of the 2013 Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics is Janet Macpherson. Ms. Macpherson began studying ceramics at Sheridan College. For several years, she maintained a studio practice in Toronto before going to Ohio State University where she received her MFA in Ceramics. Her new work has been exhibited extensively across the United States. In 2012, Macpherson held an artist-in-residence/faculty position at Sheridan College and is currently an artist-in-residence at the Craft Studio at Harbourfront Centre in Toronto. This award will allow her to undertake a three-month period of work and research at the Zentrum für Keramik in Berlin, Germany.

Carole Epp of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan received the second prize. The Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics was juried by Bruce Cochrane, Jennifer Leskiw, Jessica Steinhäuser.

The winner of the 2013 RBC Award for Glass is Brad Turner of Calgary, Alberta. Mr. Turner received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Alberta College of Art and Design and, most recently, his MFA from the School of Art and Design at Alfred University (Alfred, NY). Turner's work has been exhibited extensively in the Toronto area as well as at the Museum of Vancouver, SOFA New York, SOFA Chicago, Glassmuseet Ebeltoft (Denmark) and the Cheongju International Craft Biennial (South Korea). This award will enable Turner to travel throughout Germany, Denmark and Norway to visit museums and glass blowing production studios before producing new work while in residence at Glazenhuis in Lommel, Belgium.

Aaron Oussoren of Toronto, Ontario received the second prize. The RBC Award for Glass was juried by Susan Edgerley, Elena Lee and Tina Poplawski.

The winner of each award received \$10,000. Second place winners each received \$1,000. These prestigious national awards allow early career practising ceramic and glass artists to undertake a period of independent research, or other activities that will advance their artistic and professional practice at a key moment in their careers. The jury was comprised of highly respected contemporary glass and ceramic artists and other arts professionals.

To be eligible for the Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics or the RBC Award for Glass, artists must be

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Canadian citizens or have Permanent Resident status. They must have developed skills through training and/or practice in the field (not necessarily in academic institutions) and be recognized by other artists working in the same artistic tradition. Successful candidates have a history of professional public presentations and publications, seek payment for their work, and actively practise their art. All applicants have maintained an independent professional practice for at least two to a maximum of ten years prior to their application.

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 RBC Award for Glass is supported by the RBC Foundation as part of the RBC Emerging Artists Project.

About Winifred Shantz: The late Winifred Shantz was a driving force for the arts in Waterloo Region for more than 40 years. A successful ceramist, entrepreneur and visionary philanthropist, she was committed to finding ways to enable artists to reach their full potential.

About RBC: RBC recognizes the role the arts play in vibrant communities and strong economies, and that enabling the next generation of artists to succeed is essential to continued vitality. From visual arts and music, to performing arts, writing and filmmaking, investing in emerging artists is a long-standing priority at RBC.

For more information, please call Christian Bernard Singer, Curator at 519.746.1882, ext. 230 or email christian@canadianclayandglass.ca or visit www.theclayandglass.ca

With an emphasis on supporting the work of Canadian ceramic and glass artists, the Canadian Clay and 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.

The Gallery is located at 25 Caroline Street North in Waterloo, Ontario. It is open Monday to Friday, from 11 am to 6 pm, Saturdays from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sundays 1 to 5 pm. **Admission is always free.**