

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Exhibitions Celebrating our 30th Anniversary and the Diversity of Clay and Glass Launch at CCGG with Reception October 1st!

WATERLOO (ONTARIO) CANADA, September 25, 2023 – All are welcome to attend an opening reception at The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery as we celebrate the launch of four new exhibitions that mark our 30th Anniversary and look ahead to the future of Canadian ceramics and glass! On **Sunday, October 1st, 2023, from 2 to 4 pm** we will officially open **MONUMENTAL**, ***Beyond the Bead***, ***Shifting Bodies***, and ***Depictions of the Human Figure***. Come to the Gallery and join us in celebrating these artists!

Featuring works from the Gallery's extensive Permanent Collection, *MONUMENTAL* celebrates the Gallery's 30 years with pieces by some of the most important ceramic, glass, and enamel artists in Canada, as well as international art stars Dale Chihuly and Judy Chicago. Marking this important occasion, every work included in the exhibition is truly monumental in scale or in importance to the development of the Gallery and ceramic and glass arts in Canada. From works by the Gallery's driving forces to contemporary pieces by artists from coast to coast, *MONUMENTAL* has something for everyone! This exhibition is generously supported by The Pioneer Group Inc. and the Hogarth Family Foundation Fund at the Hamilton Community Foundation.

As the Gallery's first exhibition focusing solely on beadwork, *Beyond the Bead* features the work of Barry Ace and Charl G. Smith, two contemporary Canadian artists whose practices push one of the oldest forms of cultural art to new and engaging realms. Through contemporary materials and a respect for the diverse cultural significance of this practice, each artist demonstrates the continued importance of this medium. Exploring issues of identity, femininity, the environment, and the value of beaded craft as an artform, the works in this exhibition unleash the full potential of this medium. An additional work by Charl G. Smith, *Embrace II*, is also on display outside at the front steps of the Gallery.

Guest curated by our inaugural Ann Roberts Curatorial Fellow, Reilly Knowles, *Shifting Bodies* features the work of Julian Miholics. As the latest artist featured in the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery's Emerging Talents Series, Julian Miholics presents a contemplation on change and queerness. By intermingling human bodies with those of animals and monsters of legend, Miholics challenges the human/nonhuman divide and lovingly embraces the spectre of animalization haunting trans and Queer bodies. The Emerging Talents Series is generously supported by The Musagetes Fund held at Waterloo Region Community Foundation and The Pottery Supply House.

Depictions of the Human Figure is the Gallery's second Community Perspectives project, guest curated by Alexander Roger. Using works from the Permanent Collection, Alexander shares artists' unique and diverse approaches to depicting the human form in ceramics and glass.

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ABOUT THE CANADIAN CLAY & GLASS GALLERY

The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery is a long-standing site of excellence and a destination for contemporary art for international tourists and regional citizens. We present critically acclaimed exhibitions that challenge ideas and perceptions of the definitions of art, craft, and design today. The Gallery is a relevant and dynamic cultural organization providing supportive education programs to people from across the region. Using exhibitions as a starting point, individuals develop arts vocabulary and appreciation and cultivate confidence in their interpretation of contemporary artworks. For more information, visit: www.theclayandglass.ca

CONTACT

To schedule a media interview or for more information, contact Denis Longchamps, Executive Director & Chief Curator, at 519-746-1882 ext. 231 or director@theclayandglass.ca

