

*Emergence*

**2022**

RBC Award  
for **Glass**

Winner: **Jared Last**

Finalists: Charlie Larouche-Potvin,  
Jeanne Létourneau, Jérémie St-Onge



# Emergence

The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery proudly presents the exhibition *Emergence* showcasing the national awards winners and runners-up for clay and glass. With great pleasure and excitement, we celebrate the return of the RBC Award for Glass after a 5-year hiatus.

This year's RBC Award for Glass is presented to Jared Last. The \$10 000 prestigious award will allow Jared to undertake a residency to create work for two major exhibitions. The jury also selected three finalists for the quality of their work; each will receive \$1 000. In addition, the CCGG is featuring a selection of their pieces in *Emergence*.

Each annual award, alongside our exhibitions and programs, demonstrates our commitment to supporting emerging artists at this pivotal point in their careers. Nurturing young talent is critical to encouraging healthy and inventive ceramic and glass arts in Canada; the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery is continually working to ensure this support is available.

This year's selection was made by a jury comprised of respected contemporary glass artists and scholars Julia Reimer (Alberta), who was the first winner of the RBC Award in 2008, Laura Donefer (Ontario) and Juliette MacDonald (Glasgow, Scotland). We thank them for their time and commitment to the jurying process.

We are thankful to RBC Emerging Artists for supporting the award. This program supports organizations that provide the best opportunity to advance an artist's career trajectory in genres such as visual arts, music, theatre, performance, literature, and film. Every year the RBC Foundation donates millions of dollars to hundreds of arts organizations globally to help emerging artists become established.

Congratulations to the winner and the finalists!

**Denis Longchamps, PhD**  
Executive Director & Chief Curator



Jared Last, *Reflector Series* (sphere, off axis), Glass, 2021. Photo Courtesy of the Artist. Collection of the Artist.

## **2022 Winner**

**Jared Last**, based in Revelstoke, BC, holds a BFA in glass from the Alberta University of the Arts, graduating with distinction in 2016. He has been fortunate to study at both the Corning Museum of Glass and at Pilchuck Glass School, and recently completed a 3 year residency at Harbourfront Centre in Toronto. Jared's work combines his interests in colour, pattern, architecture and the unique optical properties of glass to create both sculptural and functional works that invite investigation and engagement. He creates works that draw viewers inwards, encouraging them to experience space, pattern, colour and glass from alternate perspective(s).



Charlie Larouche-Potvin, *Straw and Blue Set*, Blown glass, 2022. Photo Courtesy of the Artist. Collection of the Artist.



Jeanne Létourneau, *Chaussure N.04 de la série Objets et Reliques*, Crystal, pâte de verre, 2021. Photo by Joh Wax. Collection of the Artist.

## Finalist

**Charlie Larouche-Potvin** is a 22-year-old glassblower from Montréal, Québec, Canada. Charlie started glassblowing in 2017 and finished his three-year college program at Espace Verre where he was taught a multitude of different glassblowing techniques. He had the chance to study with the glass masters Davide Fuin in his studio on Murano as well as William Gudenrath at the Corning Museum of Glass. Charlie is now a member of the Fusion program at Espace Verre which gives access to alumni of the college to the glassblowing facilities for up to two years for them to do research, exploration and to start a business. His work is mainly focused on goblets in which he finds technical challenges. The traditional venetian glass as well as the choreography required to make them is a major source of inspiration for Charlie.



Jérémie St-Onge, *Petite Amphore*, Glass, 2022.  
Collection of the Artist.

## Finalist

**Jeanne Létourneau** is a glass artist from Montreal, Quebec. She graduated from the glass program at Espace VERRE in 2021. During her short career as an emerging artist, she was a finalist and laureate of several awards such as: The 2nd place of the 2021 Student Exhibition Award given by Glass Art Society, the Bourse Faire la différence and the Bourse Houdé-Mendel. She participated in exhibitions including Virtual 2021, GAS Student Exhibition, Evolution - A Showcase of Emerging, International Talent, and Onirique, a group exhibition for the Espace Verre 2021 graduates. She was also chosen as a Pilchuck Emerging Artist in Residence (EAiR) for the fall of 2022. Currently, her works combine engraving and lost wax techniques using mainly glass and crystal to represent her ideas of the beauty that surrounds us.

## Finalist

**Jérémie St-Onge** lives and works in Montreal / Tiohtià:ke / Mooniyang, where he was born on October 1st 1996. St-Onge became a student at Espace Verre in 2014 and quickly integrated glass studios as an assistant. After 5 years as first assistant at Babajaga Glassworks, a studio specialized in lighting design, he became proficient with all aspects of a high end production. During this time, St-Onge also participates in different group shows, combining craft and contemporary art. Verre d'Onge was launched in 2019, introducing a more mercantile approach without sacrificing its codes and conditions. The project is amplifying and the collaborations are decoupling ever since.

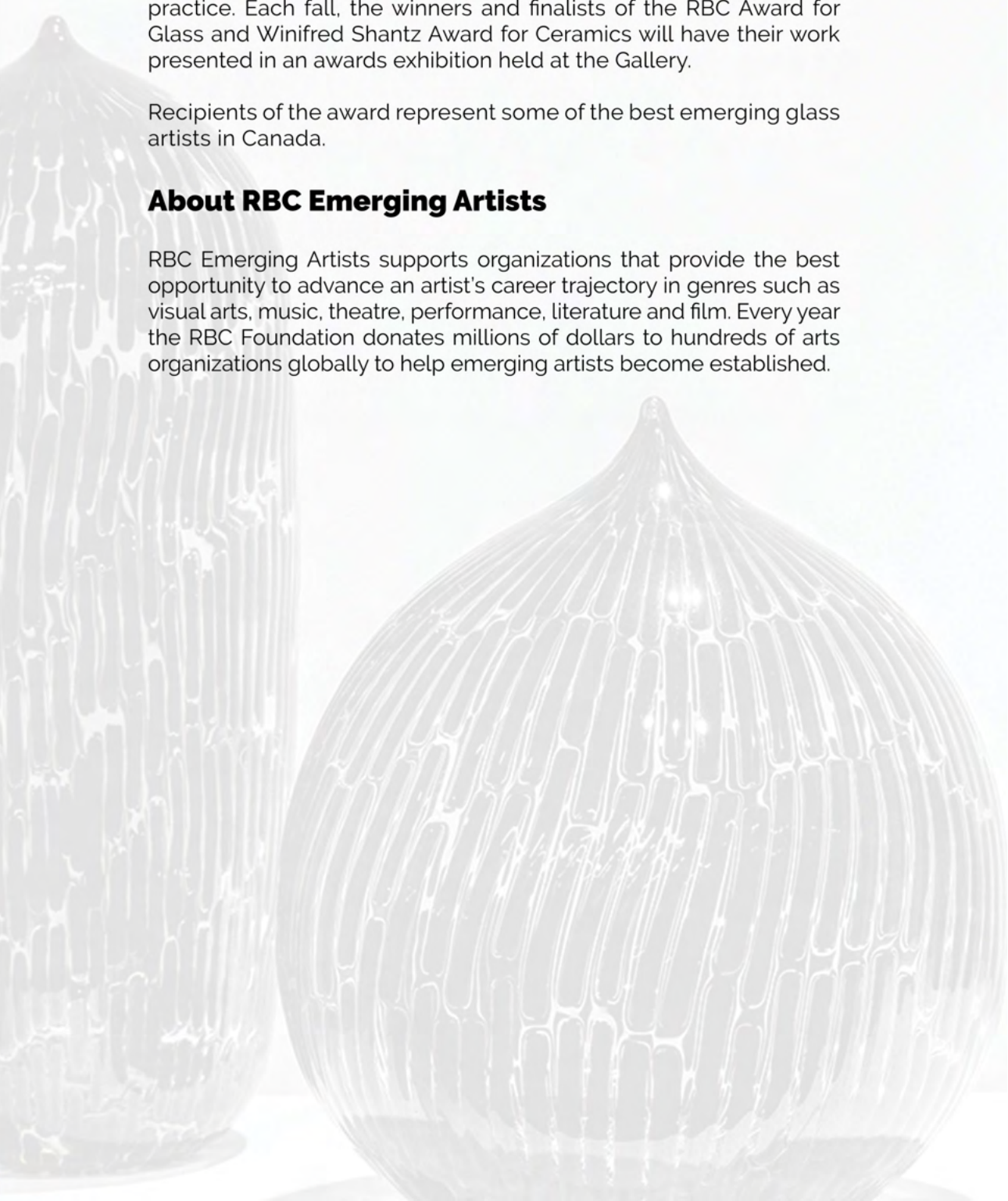
## **About the RBC Award for Glass**

The RBC Award for Glass is presented annually by the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery and is supported by RBC Emerging Artists. This prestigious \$10,000 award allows practising early career glass artists to undertake a period of independent research, or other activities that advance their artistic and professional practice. Up to 5 finalists will each receive a \$1,000 award to support the development of their practice. Each fall, the winners and finalists of the RBC Award for Glass and Winifred Shantz Award for Ceramics will have their work presented in an awards exhibition held at the Gallery.

Recipients of the award represent some of the best emerging glass artists in Canada.

## **About RBC Emerging Artists**

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## About the Jurors:

**Laura Donefer** is an award-winning artist who has been using glass as her primary medium for more than thirty-eight years, often in combination with diverse materials. Celebrated for her innovative, colorful blown glass and flame worked "Amulet Baskets", she also pushes the boundaries with work that explores ideas concerning memory, assault, bereavement, joy and madness. Laura has taught workshops and given lectures worldwide and her work is in many public and private collections, the Corning Museum of Glass, the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, the Museum of Art and Design in Manhattan and the Museum of Fine Art in Montreal. Laura has been honoured with many awards, among them "Lifetime Achievement Awards" from the Glass Art Association of Canada, as well as Craft Ontario, the prestigious "Honorary Membership Award" from the Glass Art Society, for her dedication to the glass community at large, and the International Flameworking Award for "extraordinary contributions to the glass art world."

**Dr Juliette MacDonald**, FRSA, FSA (Scot) completed her PhD at the University of St Andrews and is currently Director of the collaborative partnership between Edinburgh College of Art and Shanghai International College of Fashion and Innovation, Donghua University. Her interests focus on the evolution of practices of craft and the ways in which craft connects creativity, place and identity. She is a Distinguished Research Fellow at Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, Canada. She writes on craft, heritage and design theory and practice and has contributed chapters, articles and reviews to various Journals and books. She is co-editor of *Styling Shanghai* (Bloomsbury) 2020. She is co-founder of the Naked Craft Network, and a co-curator of *Naked Craft*, a touring exhibition across Canada and Scotland.

**Julia Reimer** grew up between the mountains and prairies in Canada and her aesthetic, based on the simplicity of light and form, is derived from this environment of crisp prairie light, undulating hills and grasslands carved by wind and water. After first studying glass blowing in 1996 at the Alberta College of Art and Design (ACAD), she has continued her studies through travels to Scotland, the United States, Spain, France and Hungary where she acquired a knowledge of design and traditional European glass making techniques. She completed her course work at ACAD in 2000 and now owns and operates Firebrand Glass Studio with her husband, Tyler Rock. Her original design and craftsmanship have been recognized through several awards and scholarships, including the first ever Canadian Clay and Glass National Glass Award for Excellence and residencies at institutions such as the Corning Museum of Glass, The Jam Factory Art Centre and the University of South Australia.



**Exhibition on View:  
September 24, 2022 to January 8, 2023**

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Cover: Jared Last, *Colour Shift Vase* (pink/blue and red/gold), 2022. Glass. Collection of the Artist.  
Photo Courtesy of the Artist.

Outside Spread: Jared Last, *Coruscare Series*, Glass, 2021. Photo Courtesy of the Artist.  
Collection of the Artist.

The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of:



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