



Emergence 2024
**RBC Award
for Glass**

Winner: **Charlie Larouche-Potvin**
Runner-up: **Jérémie St-Onge**
Finalists: **Dorothee Bouliane,**
Gordon Boyd, Leia Shijie Guo

Emergence

The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery proudly presents the exhibition *Emergence*, showcasing the winners and finalists of our national awards in ceramics and glass. We are thrilled to present the 13th RBC Award for Glass as we continue to celebrate emerging glass excellence.

This year's RBC Award for Glass is presented to Charlie Larouche-Potvin of Montréal, QC. This prestigious \$10,000 award will allow Charlie to pursue opportunities to further his career through the creation of a large-scale glass artwork exploring narrative and knowledge. Jérémie St-Onge is this year's runner-up, receiving a \$5,000 prize. Award finalists Dorothée Bouliane, Gordon Boyd, and Leia Shijie Guo will each receive a \$1,000 prize.

As artists complete their education and enter the early stages of their career it is critical that they receive support from institutions like the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery. Ensuring the success of young talent is vital to encouraging a strong and innovative ceramic and glass sector in Canada. With the presentation of the RBC Award for Glass, alongside our exhibitions and programs, we are proud to support the next generation of glass artists in Canada. Whether working in traditional Venetian techniques, contemporary forms, or creative blending of glass and photography, each artist selected demonstrates the strong state of glass art in Canada and the immense potential that the future holds.

This year's RBC Award for Glass was juried by respected contemporary glass artists and experts Susan Edgerley, Tyler Rock, and Aaron Schey. We thank them for their time and commitment to the jurying process. We express our sincere gratitude to the RBC Emerging Artists program for supporting this award. This program supports organizations that provide the best opportunities to advance an artist's career trajectory in genres such as visual arts, music, theatre, performance, literature, and film. Each year the RBC Foundation donates millions of dollars to hundreds of arts organizations globally to help emerging artists become established.

A big congratulations to the winner and finalists!

Denis Longchamps, PhD

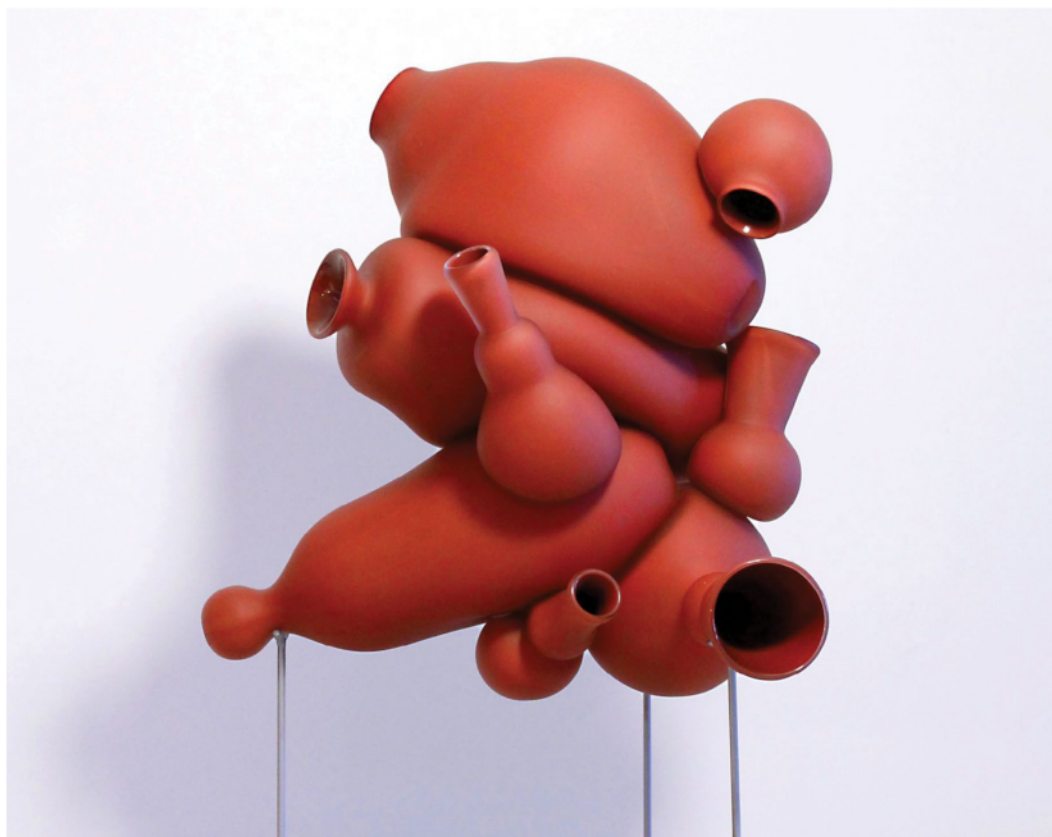
Executive Director & Chief Curator



Charlie Larouche-Potvin, *Vestiges d'un empire flamboyant*, 2022. Glass, 24K gold leaf, silver leaf. 90 x 35 x 34cm. Collection of the artist. Photo courtesy of the artist.

Charlie Larouche-Potvin (Montréal, QC) Grand Prize Winner

Charlie Larouche-Potvin Montreal-born Charlie Larouche-Potvin is a glassblower, artist, and designer. He graduated from Espace Verre in 2020 where he remained until 2022 as a member of the Fusion atelier. He has trained at the Corning Museum of Glass and in Murano, Italy, where he began his ongoing work with Maestro Davide Fuin. He has continued to travel internationally, serving as associate-in-residence at the Jam Factory in Adelaide, Australia and visiting artist at Sheridan College, Ontario and at the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk, Virginia. His expertise has also earned him several scholarships, prizes, and mentions, including finalist placements for the 2021, 2022 and 2023 François Houdé Awards. In 2024 he was awarded the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery's RBC Award in Glass.



Jérémie St-Onge, *Assemblage No. 3*, 2022. Handblown glass. 50 x 40 x 26cm.
Collection of the artist. Photo courtesy of the artist.

Jérémie St-Onge (Montréal, QC)

Runner Up

Born in 1996, **Jérémie St-Onge** is an early career glass blower living and working in Montreal. St-Onge initiated glass craftsmanship during his studies at Espace VERRE. Pursuing his formation, he joined BabaJaga Glassworks and worked full time as premier assistant for the next 5 years. St-Onge launched his project named Verre d'Onge in 2018. His work has been presented in different fairs and exhibitions in Canada, the USA, France, Italy and China. Jérémie St-Onge has been a 2022 and 2023 François-Houdé Craft Prize finalist, a 2021 RBC Award for Glass finalist and won the 2021 Archiproduct Design Award for lighting category in Milan.



Gordon Boyd, *Trying to Heal*, 2024. Blown glass, copper (patinated), 33 x 12.7 cm. Collection of the artist.

Gordon Boyd (Oakville, ON) Finalist

Gordon Boyd was born and raised in Northern Manitoba, growing up inspired by the colours of the landscape around him, he began painting and drawing at a young age. After being introduced to glass in 2015, moved to Ontario to study the craft, enticed by the beauty, as well as the difficulty inherent in the medium. While completing his Bachelors of Craft and Design at Sheridan College, Gordon worked in a variety of studios learning how to care for and build the equipment, using his free time to continue his exploration of glass.



Leia Shijie Guo, *Wishing Well #1*, 2023. Silver gelatin photographic print on blown glass vessel. 25 x 23 x 10 cm. Collection of the artist. Photo courtesy of the artist.

Leia Shijie Guo (Calgary, AB) Finalist

Leia Guo (she/her) is a Moh'kinsstis (Calgary) based interdisciplinary artist who works at the intersection of analog photography and contemporary glassmaking. Deviating from traditional aesthetics of glassmaking within craft, she uses both the presence and absence of glass in the darkroom to create unique photographic prints of the Albertan landscape that visualize the feeling of "hiraeth" - a longing for a home that is long gone or a home that never truly existed.

She holds a Bachelor of Fine Art in Glass and a Bachelor of Design in Photography from the Alberta University of the Arts (AUArts) in Calgary, Alberta. In 2023, she was awarded the coveted Pilchuck Fellowship by the Pilchuck School of Glass in WA, USA and received the Early Achievement Award from the Alberta Craft Council.

On the Cover: Charlie Larouche-Potvin, *Table Service "Maria"*, 2024. Glass, 24K gold leaf. 130 x 55 x 32cm. Collection of the artist. Photo by Anthony Cerqueira.



**Dorothée Bouliane
(Montréal, QC)
Finalist**

Dorothée Bouliane is a professional artist navigating between fine crafts and visual arts with glass as her preferred medium. Originally from the Chaudière-Appalaches river region, she has lived and worked in Montreal over the past few years. She graduated in 2022 from the craft and art techniques program at Espace Verre offered in collaboration with the Cégep du Vieux-Montréal, and has been the recipient of several scholarships since. Bouliane specializes in the manufacture of blown glass, cast glass objects and installations using lost-wax techniques. Dorothée's work addresses the absurdity of our world, the strangeness of human existence, irrationality and relativity through narration and duality.

Dorothée Bouliane, *La fiole à confidences: Ma Madelaine (The phial of confidences: My Madelaine)*, 2021. Glass, steel, alpaca wool, threads, mesh. 9 x 130 cm. Collection of the artist.

On selecting this year's winner and finalists, the jurors state:

This year the jurors were impressed by the strong applications and wholeheartedly congratulate the winner, runner-up, and finalists. Recognizing the work of winner Charlie Larouche Potvin, they particularly appreciated his exquisite technical skills and deep understanding of historical Venetian glass within a contemporary exploration of the drinking vessel form. They also awarded Jérémie St-Onge with the runner-up prize for his innovative research project exploring landscape with blown glass. Overall, the wide range of creative approaches and techniques of all applicants reveals the strength of the emerging glass talent across the country and underscores the importance of the RBC Award to the continued support and development of their professional careers.

About the Jurors:

Susan Edgerley is renowned for her singular and poetic studio glass practice. Since 1984, she has been creating large-scale glass and mixed media sculptures and installations which have been exhibited in North America, as well as in Europe and Asia. She was the 2019 recipient of the Governor General Award for the Arts – Saidye Bronfman Award for Excellence in Fine Craft. Concurrent to her active studio practice, she has been involved in glass education as a teacher at Sheridan College (1985-87) and at Espace VERRE in Montreal (1988-2006), where she also served as pedagogical director from 1989 to 1990, implementing Quebec's first college-level glass program within the Center. As a Board member of Espace VERRE and President from 1993-1995, Edgerley spearheaded Quebec's first post-graduate transitional hot glass studio program.

Tyler Rock is Associate Professor, Glass at the Alberta University of the Arts. For the past 20 years his studio practice has been focused on vessel aesthetics and the exploration of the intrinsic properties of glass as a material. Increasingly his interest within form and design in the glass blowing studio, has turned to the creation of sculptural objects that manipulate light and create immersive experiences.

Rock, who hails from western Canada, has been an instructor in the Glass program at the Alberta College of Art and Design glass program since 1995. He has served as the head of the Glass program at ACAD and as president of the Glass Art Association of Canada. He has taught workshops and lectured at schools, studios and institutions in Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Belgium, France, Spain, and Japan.

Aaron Schey is a graduate of Michigan State University with a degree in advertising and a background in computer science. Aaron joined the Habatat organization in 2005 and is a partner and owner of Habatat Detroit Fine Art, Inc. He has promoted talented artists throughout the world with both gallery and museum exhibitions, art fairs, catalogs, physical and internet marketing, and beyond. He has currently revolutionized the online exhibition format and created the Glass Art Fair digital presentation and recently developed a limited-edition offering service through the habatat.com website. He also developed Not Grandma's Glass yearlong virtual exhibition in 2021 and now continuing in 2023. A second-generation gallery owner, Aaron has a vast knowledge of the history of studio glass along with a keen eye for developing collections.

About the RBC Award for Glass

The RBC Award for Glass is presented annually by the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery and is supported by the RBC Foundation. 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. One runner-up will receive a prize of \$5,000. Up to 3 finalists will also be selected who will each receive a prize of \$1,000. Each summer, 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.

About RBC Emerging Artists

RBC Emerging Artists 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.



Exhibition on View: June 1 to September 8, 2024

ISBN: 978-1-928022-67-1

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



The Keith and Winifred Shantz Fund for the Arts

