



GAS | GLASS ART
SOCIETY

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**GLASS ART SOCIETY ANNOUNCES
2018 SAXE EMERGING ARTISTS**

MAY 4, 2018 –The Glass Art Society (GAS) is pleased to announce its selection of the 2018 Saxe Emerging Artists.

Over the years, the Glass Art Society has selected and commended a number of emerging artists for their promising talent based on a rigorous, competitive jurying process. Applications of qualified individuals, who were nominated by professional academics and curators, are evaluated and deliberated over by a small jury based on the criteria listed below:

- An emerging artist using glass as their primary medium
- Not currently enrolled in a training or education program (including MFA or PhD)
- Have five years or less of professional experience since graduating from a study or training program
- Not a current or past presenter of a lecture or demo at a GAS conference

At the 47 Annual Glass Art Society conference, *Il Percorso di Vetro, The Glass Path*, in Murano, Italy, this year's three talented artists will have the opportunity to introduce themselves and their work to a larger audience of artists, academics, educators, collectors, critics and peers.

The 2018 Saxe Emerging Artists are:

MENG DU-Meng Du was born and raised in Beijing, China. In 2008, she finished her BFA in Visual Communication at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. In 2013, Du received her MFA from the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Glass Program. She has been an Artist in Residence as well as the Adjunct Professor at RIT in the following years until she returned to China in 2016. Du has participated in Artist in Residence program at Aichi University of Education in 2017 and her work has continuing to exhibit in China, Japan, Europe, and in the United States.

SIMONE FEZER- Simone Fezer was born in the southwest of Germany in 1976. Fezer worked with various mediums until, in 1996, she learned to know glass, fell in love with the material and has been working with hot glass ever since. Fezer began to incorporate glass as her main artistic medium. Soon she began to incorporate other materials (steel, wood and mixed media) in her work, in order to gain a wider range of possibilities and unlimited expression. For the last few years, Fezer has been making her living as a traveling artist, learning from and working with people from all over the world.

GAYLE FORMAN- An avid fan of frozen treats, Gayle Forman gravitates toward things that melt, spill, and generally make a mess. Artist, designer, and administrator, her studio practice and research focuses on play, imagination, the absurd and the everyday. The work is realized as performance, video, photography, installation and sculpture. Recently Gayle launched Forman Function, her line of home goods. First encountering glass at the Pittsburgh Glass Center in her hometown, Forman received her BFA in Glass from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2014. Currently she is the Program Coordinator at the Chrysler Museum of Art Perry Glass Studio in Norfolk, VA.

The 2018 Jurors are:

COREY HAMPSON

Corey Hampson is a graduate of the Hayworth's School of Business at Western Michigan University and acted as Director of Sales at Habatat Galleries for over a decade. He is currently President and Owner of Habatat Galleries inc. He has written and published numerous articles about studio glass. Mr. Hampson has curated dozens of Museum and Art Center exhibitions throughout the United States. He hosts the largest and oldest annual studio glass exhibition in the world (43 years) entitled: Habatat Galleries International Glass Invitational. Mr. Hampson works very closely developing collections for private collectors, museums and organizations around the world. He is currently serves as the youngest member on the National Advisory Board of Directors for the AACG – Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass and is also the President of the MGCA – Michigan Glass Collecting Alliance.

EINAR & JAMEX de la TORRE

Collaborating artists-brothers Einar and Jamex de la Torre were born in Guadalajara, México (1963 & 1960), where they grew up until a sudden family move to California in 1972. Presently living and working in both Ensenada, México and San Diego, California. Jamex started lampworking glass in 1977, attended California State University at Long Beach under scholarship; received a BFA in Sculpture in 1983. Einar started work with glass in 1980; also, attended California State University Long Beach. Both owned and operated a flame-worked glass figure business from 1981 to 1997.

ABOUT THE SAXE EMERGING ARTIST LECTURE FUND

In 1980, Dorothy and the late George Saxe began collecting glass art. Over the course of their marriage, they built one of the most premier contemporary glass collections found in the United States. As collectors, the Saxes supported artists, galleries, institutions, and have played an immense role in elevating and increasing appreciation of glass art. At the 2015 GAS conference, the Saxes were honored with a tribute event which helped establish the Saxe Emerging Artists Lecture Fund, an endowment to support future generations of glass artists. Donations can be made online at www.glassart.org/donate.html

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The Glass Art Society is an international non-profit organization founded in 1971 whose purpose is to encourage excellence, advance education, promote the appreciation and development of the glass arts, and support the worldwide community of artists who work with glass.