



GAS | GLASS ART
SOCIETY

PRESS RELEASE

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**GLASS ART SOCIETY ANNOUNCES
2019 SAXE EMERGING ARTISTS**

March 22 2019 - The Glass Art Society (GAS) is pleased to announce Lily Reeves, Kris Rumman, and Nao Yamamoto as the 2019 Saxe Emerging Artists. These three talented artists are scheduled to do a brief lecture at the 48th Annual GAS Conference, *Charting a Course: Visions in Glass*, on Friday, March 29 from 4 pm-5 pm at the Bayfront Hilton Grand Ballroom South in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Each year, GAS selects three artists with promising talent to introduce their work to a larger audience of established artists, educators, peers, collectors, and critics. Qualified individuals are nominated by professional academics and curators, and then evaluated and selected by a small jury.

The 2019 jurors include Sarah Traver, President of Traver Gallery in Seattle; Amy Lemaire, a multi-disciplinary artist and educator based in Brooklyn, NY; and Andrea Dezső, a visual artist who works across a broad range of mediums, most notably her public art installations in NYC subway stations.

Lily Reeve's practice stems from growing up in the Southeastern United States which has contoured her practice with notions of magical realism and Southern Gothicism, with roots in the uncanny and supernatural. Using light and space as her medium, she centers viewers in a mystical world that nurtures wonderment and openness. Her sculptural work encourages emotional well-being in her audience by employing invasive tactics such as light, built environments, and audience-participatory performance.

Reeves is from Birmingham, Alabama. She received her BFA from Alfred University in Alfred, NY and an MFA at Arizona State University in Phoenix, AZ. She currently lives and works full-time in Birmingham, where she runs Southern Lights Studios, her art and design studio.

Kris Rumman is an interdisciplinary artist whose work investigates the possibilities of what art can do that politics cannot. Comprised of glass, sculpture, installation, performance, and video, she works with technologies that are familiar forms for producing propaganda globally, ranging from security glass and empathy inducing lighting to self-help audio tapes, olfactory praxis and social platforms.

Acting as an unorthodox archivist, she collects family stories, cultural memories, and culinary praxis, to construct a floor plan of an imaginary house. With her work, Kris Rumman explores the potential of glass to facilitate healing, dialogue, and empathy.

Rumman was raised in Toledo, Ohio and received her BFA from Bowling Green State University and her MFA from Tyler School of Art. She is presently based in Philadelphia where she is an Instructor at Tyler School of Art and a new member at Vox Populi.

Nao Yamamoto grew up in Japan in an environment that allowed her to cultivate an appreciation for both contemporary art and traditional craft art. She recognizes art as a way to represent and have conversations with herself and is devoted to a contemporary art practice as a way to visually represent and connect to her feelings and experiences.

For her, nothing compares with the beauty of nature. She believes we have lost that notion in our complicated contemporary lives. She tries to reinterpret elements from nature to celebrate the power of life, both in its significance and in its insignificance and has long created pieces based on the simple beauty of glass. During the glassblowing process, she sees the molten glass as a creature that has a consciousness that tries to challenge her skill. This relationship with glass has helped her to create a different body of work that represents her experience or consciousness rather than the materiality of glass.

Yamamoto was born in Ishikawa, Japan, and now resides in Seattle, Washington. She received an MFA in studio art and design from California State University, San Bernardino, and her Bachelor of Fine Arts, specializing in glass, from Tama Art University in Tokyo.

A digital catalogue featuring Saxe Emerging Artist's work is available, [HERE](#).

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About the Glass Art Society

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

GAS is dedicated to creating greater public awareness and appreciation of the glass arts.

About the Saxe Emerging Artists Lecture Fund

Dorothy and the late George Saxe began collecting glass in 1980, and over the course of their marriage they built one of the premier collections of contemporary glass in the United States. As collectors, the Saxes supported artists, galleries, and institutions, and have helped to give glass a prominence in museums across the country. To make a donation to this fund, visit http://www.glassart.org/donate_to_GAS.html