

OPENING
RECEPTION
JULY 1
5 to 7.30 PM

EXHIBITION
through
AUGUST 28



Opening Reception **1 July** | Exhibition through **28 August**

MICAËLA GALLERY presents COLD+HOT 2010, an annual showcase of the work of selected national and international glass sculptors in a single exhibition. Featured artists are Peter Bremers, Kathleen Elliot, Michael Janis, Michelle Knox, Weston Lambert, Carol Lawton, Silvia Levenson, JP Long, Susan Longini, Thomas Scoon, Carmen Spera, and Kristiina Uslar, who collectively demonstrate the expansive versatility of glass as a sculpture medium in terms of material, color, and form, alongside the video work of Tim Tate and photography of Mark Leibowitz.

The exhibition title, COLD+HOT 2010, derives from the distinct processes used by glass artists for millennia - sculpting its form, or cold-working it while cold (actually, at room temperature), very hard and brittle; and working hot glass, shaping it while molten, using blowing and/or kiln forming techniques at temperatures ranging from 1700 to over 3000 degrees.

Carmen Spera is from NYC, where he continues to expand his art work with new projects, visions, and mediums. He lives in Soho with his family, and travels extensively throughout the year, teaching and showing his work. He received his MFA from New York University, and taught design at both NYU and Pratt University.

Spera states: *Although many describe me as a glass artist, it is more accurate to say I am an artist who works with glass.*

I started as a painter in the late 1970's, was a pioneer of the vanguard art furniture movement of the 1980's, and eventually stumbled into the glass world by doing reverse-painting on glass after a trip to Haiti in 1981. I've experimented with painting, casting metals and carving wood, but I'm particularly drawn to doing unconventional work with glass. I currently have a studio within a glass-slumping factory in Red Hook, Brooklyn and take advantage of the industrial techniques I'm exposed to there to create art objects infused with sociopolitical commentary that I find interesting and relevant.

I've taken the iconic images of assault weapons that typically inspire reactions of fear and discomfort and rendered them fragile by creating them from glass. I've also branded them with high fashion design emblems. These pieces join themes of violence and aggression with luxury and class, and are designed to evoke dialogue on power, the global market and arms trade. I am also reclaiming images that have

recently been used by our government and media to spread fear and distrust, and challenging the viewer to perceive them within a larger, more nuanced context.

The essence of my work is to find the sacred in everything.

IMAGE: Carmen Spera. Barbie Uzi, 2010. Glass, mixed media. 16 x 15.5 x 3 in.

You are cordially invited to join us for a welcoming reception for the artists on Thursday, 1 July 2010, from 5 to 7.30 pm.

For inquiries or a preview of these works, please contact info@micaela.com.

A print exhibition catalog, PDF exhibition catalog, photographs and high resolution images are available upon request. To order print exhibition catalog, please contact the gallery at info@micaela.com

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About Us: Micaëla Gallery is located at 49 Geary Street, No. 234, San Francisco, CA. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11am to 6pm, and by appointment. The closest BART|MUNI stop is at Montgomery Station. Public parking is available at the Sutter/Stockton Garage and the Union Square Garage.