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Micaëla Gallery

49 Geary Street, No. 234

San Francisco, CA 94108 USA

9 June 2009



Opening 30 June | Reception 2 July | Exhibition through 29 August

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA - 9 June 2009 - (for immediate release) Micaëla Gallery is pleased to present "COLD+HOT 2009," the gallery's annual group exhibition of glass sculpture. This year's presentation features artworks by a large group of accomplished sculptors, and two painters: Peter Bremers, Eric Franklin, Grant Garmezy, Phillip Hua, Michelle Knox, Weston Lambert, John Lewis, Susan Longini, Greg Nangle, Nancy Otto, Lorraine Peltz, Stig Persson, Chantal Royant, Thomas Scoon, Carmen Spera, Jennifer Umphress, Kristiina Uslar, Dana Zed, Sasha Zhitneva. It's another big show of excellent glass sculpture!

Opening Tuesday, 30 June, the reception welcoming the artists will be hosted Thursday, 2 July, from 5 to 7.30 pm.

STATEMENT:

A critic at a prior exhibition of Micaëla Gallery's COLD +HOT group show of glass sculpture commented on the 'absence' of unity for the range of artworks presented, which surprised the gallery director, Micaëla Van Zwoll, as she believes the elements that fuse the gallery's glass sculpture exhibitions



are the obvious relationships of material (glass) and visual imagery presented by each artist's creative vernacular. For example, for this year's **COLD+HOT**, John Lewis' bench, made entirely of cast glass, begs the dangerous fragility of the material, it's a substantial piece of light catching sculpture...or is it a piece of furniture? Likewise, the planes of **Peter Bremers'** lead glass (a.k.a., crystal) are tantalizingly forms that become beautifully sculpted vessels for continuous, naturally changing interior optics trapped within the planes of his work; while channeling past travels to the Antarctic continent. **Thomas Scoon's** "Companions" reference impassive stone with fragility of human relationships by juxtaposing found granite with cast glass, creating stalwart figurative shapes.



Asking the viewer to find these links during an exhibition may be difficult, since an obstacle to overcome is the presence of such work executed in various forms of glass. Once the viewer accepts the glass forms and develops affinity for the artist's vernacular, whether social commentary or as light-capturing vessels, the dialogue between viewer and artist can begin. We consider concept and the creative process, at high levels of intellectual and technical skill, both required to make these works.

Micaëla Gallery's underlying idea is the exhibition of the best available contemporary glass sculpture. The 2009 presentation of **COLD+HOT** introduces new work by Micaëla Gallery artists from our San Francisco Bay Area backyard, and beyond, in a range of beautiful and fragile forms skillfully crafted from glass, all presenting ideas for the active viewer to consider. In keeping with past traditions, Micaëla Gallery presents work by two painters, Phillip Hua and **Lorraine Peltz**, whose work demonstrates shared interests in illumination and the desire to convey transcendence. The exhibition is carefully curated for well-developed concepts, superior execution of process, and visual pleasure.



About Us: Micaëla Gallery is located at 49 Geary Street, No. 234, San Francisco, CA. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10.30 to 5.30 pm, and by appointment. The closest BART|MUNI stop is the Montgomery Station. Public parking is available at the Sutter/Stockton Garage and the Union Square Garage.

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