



PRESS RELEASE
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SCANDINAVIAN GLASS – STARTING ALL OVER

21.04.-23.09.2018

On 20th April, Glasmuseet Ebeltoft will open this year's extensive summer exhibition, 'Scandinavian Glass – Starting All Over'. More than 70 artists and designers from Sweden, Norway, Finland, Iceland and Denmark are represented in the exhibition, which will be the largest presentation of Nordic glass for decades.

The project is a collaboration between three unique Scandinavian museums specialized in glass: Glasmuseet Ebeltoft in Denmark, The Glass Factory in Boda, Sweden, and Suomen Lasimuseo in Riihimäki, Finland. The three museums have joined forces in order to take stock and explore the future possibilities within a field marked by notable changes over recent years. The project has been supported by the Nordic Culture Fund.



Riikka Latva-Somppi (Finland): 'Emergency Call'.
Photo: Aleksi Tikkala

For centuries a strong and vigorous tradition for designing and making glass has existed in the Nordic countries. It is recognized and valued far beyond the borders of the region for its fine craftsmanship, and admired for its aesthetics and its distinctive measured, but elegant Nordic touch. In recent years, however, this tradition has been going through a great upheaval. The processes involved in working with glass and forming it are demanding, so they are both labour intensive and costly. The high wages and energy consumption required for production has meant that it has largely been transferred to parts of the world where costs are more manageable. The majority of the Scandinavian glass factories now no longer exist. The knowledge and skills that were imperceptibly passed on from generation to generation are in danger of being lost.

The proud Scandinavian glass tradition is therefore in a critical phase, and must reinvent itself. With 'Scandinavian Glass – Starting All Over' Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, The Glass Factory and Suomen Lasi Museo have decided to face the issues straight on and point out possible ways towards healthy recovery.

In addition to the exhibition shown at the institutions involved, the project consists of workshops, which are held during the exhibition period. The exhibition is the largest collective presentation of Scandinavian glass in recent decades, and it was put together with a view to development. Director for Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Dan Mølgaard, explains:

“Our aim was to point out possibilities and look for new paths to follow, which we believe will form developments that lie ahead. In curating the exhibition we have been guided by specific landmarks which determined our choice of the artists taking part. These landmarks have been: new approaches to historical handmade techniques, science and glass, product development, and glass as contemporary art.”

Represented in the exhibition are:

Denmark:

Ida Wieth-Knudsen, Lene Bødker, Pernille Braun, Ned Cantrell, Jeannet Iskandar, Tobias Møhl, Steffen Dam, Micha Karlslund, Karin Mørch, Trine Drivsholm, Karen Lise Krabbe, Stine Bidstrup, Maria Bang Espersen, Pipaluk Lake, Maria Koshenkova, Marie Retpen

Finland:

Joonas Laakso, Ella Varvio, Kaappo Lähdesmäki, Riikka Latva-Somppi, Johannes Rantasalo, Hendriikka Pöllänen, Helmi Remes, Kimmo Reinikka, Iiro A. Ahokas, Auli Rautiainen, Kirsti Taiviola, Sauli Suomela, Harri Koskinen, Juri Karinen, Riikka Haapasaari

Iceland/Norway:

Æsa Björk

Norway:

Lene Tangen, Monica Amundsen, Karin Forslund, Vidar Koksvig, Kari Håkonsen, Kirsten Storesund, Ingrid Nord, Ina Kristine Hove, Kaja Dahl, Ine Harrang, Kari Mølstad, Beate Einen

Sweden:

Peter Hermansson, Fredrik Nielsen, Björn Friborg, Simon Klenell, Helena Kågebrand, Charles Stern & Lian Reeves, Ammy Olofsson, Frida Fjellman, Ingalena Klenell, Noam Dover, Project Dynamic Transparencies (Mads Höbye, Peter Kuchinke, Henrik Svarrer Larsen), Project BOOM (Matilda Kästel, Nina Westman, Ammy Olofsson, Erika Bredberg, Sara Lundkvist), Project LAST (Åsa Jungnelius, Gustaf Nordenskiöld, Frederik Paulsen), Co-Lab Nationalmuseum (Matti Klenell, Mattias Ståhlbom, Stina Löfgren, Åsa Jungnelius, Simon Klenell, Gabriella Gustafson, Carina Seth Andersson, Monica Backström)

Exhibition period 'Scandinavian Glass – Starting All Over' at Glasmuseet Ebeltoft: 21st April – 23rd September 2018

- The exhibition has been shown at The Glass Factory, Sweden, and Suomen Lasi Museo, Finland.
- The project is supported by the Nordic Culture Fund, which is currently focusing on work specifically made by hand in a series of projects which have all received funding through the HANDMADE programme.

- In connection with the opening weekend, there will be a short programme of events including artist talks and a demo in the glass studio.



Fredrik Nielsen (Sweden): White Blue Pearl Pitcher.



Project Dynamic Transparencies (Sweden) – Mads Höbye, Peter Kuchinke, Henrik Svarrer Larsen.

Images in high resolution can be downloaded at <http://glasmuseet.dk/presse/>

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