

# HELLER

GALLERY

## PRESS RELEASE

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## CHROMA REVIVAL | AMBER COWAN

February 12 – March 21, 2015

Reception for the artist: Thursday, February 12, 6-8pm



Heller Gallery is pleased to present *Chroma Revival*, our second solo exhibition of work by award-winning, Philadelphia-based artist Amber Cowan.

Cowan's work asks universal questions about rebirth, knowledge and desire and the transformative powers of labor and imagination. Cowan re-works commercially produced pressed glassware, from some of the best known, but now defunct, glass factories in America. She takes objects, currently relegated to the aesthetic dustbin of history, and reincarnates them into ornate, color-themed abstractions. Her material is sourced from 1950s and '60s candy dishes, snack sets and old pressed glass tableware in once collectable colors such as milk (*The Lion and the Fox*, *White Swan Theater*), chocolate (*Bicentennial Chocolate*) or mint green (*Spring Mint*). Premiering on the East Coast will be her large-scale pieces *Sky Blue*, *Cobalt and Slag* and *Gray 80*. *Chroma Revival* will also feature her first collaboration with Snick Barnes, *Sky Milk and Metal*.

Cowan received her MFA from Temple University's Tyler School of Art in 2011. She is the recipient of the 2014 Rakow Commission from the Corning Museum of Glass. Her work has been published in Corning Museum's *New Glass Review* and exhibited in museum shows across the United States and in China. The San Francisco Museum of Craft and Design recently concluded her solo exhibition *Amber Cowan: Second-Life Glass*, in the fall of 2014. Cowan is a featured artist in *The Toledo Workshop Revisited, 1962-2012*, a documentary film produced by the Robert M. Minkoff Foundation, about the week-long residency honoring the past and celebrating the future of creative experimentation in glass.

**An opening reception for the artist will take place at Heller Gallery, on Thursday, February 12, 2015 from 6-8pm.**