



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IMAGES AVAILABLE

Take a Journey, *Into the Deep*

New Museum of Glass Exhibition Connects the Fragile Beauty of Marine Environments
to the Delicate Nature of Glass

Tacoma, Wash. — *Into the Deep*, opening at Museum of Glass (MOG) on September 24, 2016, will introduce visitors to the similar properties between glass and water, taking them on a journey through the wide possibilities of glass and the beauty of marine life. *Into the Deep* will be open through September 2017.

The pieces in the exhibition reflect the movements, textures, shapes, and colors associated with being underwater through the medium of glass. "By creating artwork inspired by the ocean, each artist has captured both the fragile beauty of the marine environments and the delicate nature of glass," shares *Into the Deep* curator, Katie Buckingham.

Buckingham, who has been a member of the Museum's curatorial department for four years, is hopeful that visitors will not only enjoy seeing the variety of marine-inspired glass art in *Into the Deep*, but also connect what they see to their natural surroundings. "I hope that visitors to *Into the Deep* learn about the many different ways the medium of glass can be used to make art, but also feel inspired to observe, celebrate, and protect natural environments in their own communities."

Artists in the exhibition, whose work is traditionally inspired by the ocean or animals, feel similarly. Kelly O'Dell, who created a glass clam and mussel with barnacles for *Into the Deep* during her 2015 residency at Museum of Glass, does not consider herself an animal rights activist or expert, but understands that her work has the power to influence how people view their natural surroundings. From rhinoceros and elephant busts to clams and mussels, O'Dell often works with animal forms. "As I get to know the animal, I learn of its fragility. I experienced this with the barnacled pieces. As I researched the idea, the shells, the barnacles, I learned about the reality of ocean acidification, and how it can drastically affect the ocean's life forms," shares O'Dell.

Into the Deep includes more than 55 pieces, 15 of which were made in the Museum of Glass Hot Shop. Alfredo Barbini, Dale Chihuly, Shayna Leib, Kelly O'Dell, Kait Rhoads, Raven Skyriver, and Hiroshi Yamano are amongst the 16 national and international artists featured in the exhibition.

Three digital tours, using STQRY QR codes, will accompany the exhibition. The first, written by University of Washington, Tacoma, (UWT) professor and biologist Bonnie Becker, will offer a scientific supplement to the artwork in *Into the Deep*. The second will detail how specific pieces in the exhibition were made. The third will provide information about each featured artist and their personal connection with the ocean.

In addition to collaborating with UWT, other community partnerships include a Kids Design Glass™ opportunity at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium and Make Your Own Float workshops with Hilltop Artists.

Into the Deep opens with two exclusive MOG member preview days on September 24 and 25, and opens to the general public on September 28.

RELATED PROGRAMMING

Make Your Own Glass Float

September 24 & 25, 2016

Saturday, 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday, 12 – 5 pm

During *Into the Deep's* opening weekend, Hilltop Artists will be in the Hot Shop ready to help participants create their own glass float in celebration of the new exhibition. Workshop participants will be selecting color, blowing, and shaping their float. Must be 12+ to participate. A limited number of 30-minute appointments can be reserved with pre-payment by calling 253.284.4719 or signing up at the Museum admissions desk. \$55 per person/\$40 for Museum members. Shipping is available for an additional fee. No refunds. Please note, September 24 and 25 are *Into the Deep's* member preview days. All registered workshop participants will receive access to the exhibition, with or without Museum membership.

“How Art Helps Us Understand Invertebrates and How Invertebrates Make Great Art”

Saturday, October 1, 2016

1 pm

Discover the connection between art and zoology with University of Washington, Tacoma, professor Bonnie Becker. There is a little known, but long-standing, relationship between art and invertebrate zoology. Probably the most famous artistic representation of an invertebrate is Botticelli's *The Birth of Venus*, although humans have been creating images of marine invertebrates for thousands of years. When studying organisms like marine invertebrates, scientists need to have an eye for detail, an ability to describe complex structures, and a recognition of the relationship between form and function. Because of this, there are many examples of zoologists who dabble in art and artists who dabble in zoology. This talk will take a closer look at the science and art of animals without backbones. Free with admission.

Family Day: Grateful Gourds

Saturday, November 12

1 – 4 pm

Celebrate what you are grateful for! Make your own beaded pumpkin with artist Jennifer Adams from 1 to 4 pm and enjoy the sounds of the Tacoma Banjo Club at 1 pm. In addition, join UWT environmental science students to learn about the inner workings of octopus and squid in support of the new exhibition, *Into the Deep*! Free with admission.

The Zoology of Glass Art Tour

October 20 and November 17, 2016

6 pm

Take a tour of *Into the Deep* with UWT environmental science students. The tour will cover the ecology, evolution, and conservation of the organisms featured in the exhibition, including octopus, shrimp, and clams. Free Third Thursday admission.

Visiting Artist Kait Rhoads

November 16 – 20, 2016

As well as being featured in *Into the Deep*, Kait Rhoads will complete a Visiting Artist Residency in the Museum's Hot Shop. Rhoads spent a significant part of her childhood living on a boat in the Caribbean. The influence this experience has had on her work can be seen in the vibrant colors used in her blown pieces, whether through the depiction of coral, peacocks, or abstract forms. Rhoads received her BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design. She currently lives and works in Seattle, WA.

Kids Design Glass in the Hot Shop

Sunday, April 30, 2017

12 – 5 pm

Watch the Museum's Hot Shop Team transform the newest Kids Design Glass drawing into glass! In partnership with Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, Museum of Glass will collect designs by children 12 and under during the winter/spring of 2017. Kids Design Glass entry forms will be available at the aquarium, encouraging children to use the surrounding marine life as inspiration for their designs. One drawing will be selected in April and translated into glass. The Hot Shop Team will create two sculptures—one for the Museum's collection and one for the young designer to take home.

AVAILABLE IMAGES



Artist Kelly O'Dell (American, born 1974) gets ready to add a glass barnacle to her clam sculpture in the Museum of Glass Hot Shop. She is assisted by Raven Skyriver (American, born 1982) and Hot Shop Team member Sarah Gilbert (American, born 1982).



Kait Rhoads (American, born 1968); *Red Polyp*, 2007; Blown glass, mixed hollow murrine woven with copper wire; steel stand; 45 x 49 x 19 inches; Collection of the artist; Photo courtesy of the artist.



Raven Skyriver (American, born 1982); *Tye*, 2014; Off-hand sculpted glass; 21 x 32 x 7 inches; Collection of the artist; Photo by Kp Studios.

Museum of Glass is sponsored in part by the City of Tacoma Arts Commission, ArtsFund, The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, and The Dimmer Family Foundation.



Hours and Admission

Museum and Store open Wednesday through Saturday 10 am to 5 pm, Third Thursdays 10 am to 8 pm, and Sundays 12 pm to 5 pm until Memorial Day. Closed Monday and Tuesday. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Open Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Presidents' Day. Museum and Store open Monday through Sunday during Summer months, Memorial Day through Labor Day. Open Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day.

Admission is free for members, \$15 general, \$12 seniors, military and students (13+ with ID), \$13 AAA Members, \$12 groups of 20 or more, \$10 groups of 50 or more, and \$5 for children (6-12) years old. Children 5 and under are admitted free. Admission is free every third Thursday of the month from 5 pm to 8 pm.

Info Line 253-284-4750/ 1-866-4MUSEUM

Museum of Glass, 1801 Dock Street Tacoma, WA 98402

www.museumofglass.org



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