



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2022

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AS MUSEUM OF GLASS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS, TWO GLASS ARTISTS HAVE BEEN THERE FOR IT ALL



The Museum of Glass Hot Shop has been a must-see destination for 20 years. While the Museum prides itself on hosting impactful exhibitions and providing unique learning experiences, it is inherently a maker's space. Not only does Museum of Glass exhibit engaging and thought-provoking art, it demonstrates and shares the process of creating it.

Hot Shop Director Ben Cobb and gaffer Gabe Feenan have been at Museum of Glass since the beginning — growing as artists and makers in the Hot Shop since 2002 and establishing themselves as a world-class glassmaking team. Cobb joined the Museum of Glass Hot Shop at 23 years old, Feenan at 29, and, in the two decades since, the two have expanded the scope of the Hot Shop's work and its support for visiting glass artists around the world.

Gabe Feenan (left) and Ben Cobb

“When we opened our doors, we set out to make the Hot Shop a glimpse into the working artist's studio. Our audience has the opportunity to watch the creative process happen. And we have the ability to essentially create exhibitions in the Hot Shop, then, a couple years later, have that work and those ideas expressed in the Museum's galleries,” said Cobb.

One such exhibition, [Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight](#), was made at the Museum and debuted in its galleries in 2018. Now one of the Museum's traveling exhibitions, *Raven and the Box of Daylight* is currently on view at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC, and will travel from there to Chrysler Museum of Art and Oklahoma City Museum of Art over the next two years.

Raven and the Box of Daylight is just one success among the hundreds of visiting artist residencies Cobb and Feenan have hosted over their years at Museum of Glass — helping to bring those artists' visions to life as gaffers, supporters, and collaborators while Museum guests witness the process in the Hot Shop Amphitheater. Additionally, working with the great maestros in glass and an array of emerging artists has made Cobb and Feenan exceptional artists in their own right.

Cobb and Feenan also extend the Museum of Glass Hot Shop resources to the local community by partnering with local middle and high school students in the [Hilltop Artists](#) program, and children

who submit their wild and whimsical designs to be brought to life in glass through the Museum's [Kids Design Glass](#) program.

"I love working here because I get to work with different people with different ideas. I live for somebody handing me a piece of paper with a drawing on it and saying, 'Make this!,'" said Feenan.

After 20 years, Cobb looks toward the future.

"Looking forward to the next 20 years, I feel it is important that we continue to support young and emerging voices in our community. We are so proud to be a resource for artists and a trusted place to bring their ideas."



About Museum of Glass

Located in Tacoma, Washington, Museum of Glass is a premier contemporary art museum dedicated to glass and glassmaking in the West Coast's largest and most active museum glass studio. Opened in 2002, the Museum has established a reputation for hosting impactful and engaging artist residencies, organizing nationally traveling exhibitions, and creating unique programs for visitors while building a growing permanent collection chronicling the development of modern and contemporary glass. Museum of Glass provides an environment for artists and the public to ignite creativity, fuel discovery, and enrich their lives through glass and glassmaking.

Quick Facts

- Museum of Glass has displayed over 140 exhibitions since 2002, featuring glass art pioneers such as Dale Chihuly, Lino Tagliapietra, and Preston Singletary.
- Over 100,000 visitors explore the Museum each year.
- Approximately 40% of visitors attend free of charge.
- The Hot Shop hosts over 35 Visiting Artist Residencies each year.
- The Museum has engaged over 200,000 children through educational programs.
- 750 soldiers and veterans have been served through the Hot Shop Heroes program

Address: 1801 Dock Street, Tacoma, WA 98402

Hours: 10am - 5pm, Wednesday - Sunday. Third Thursday of every month, 10am - 8pm.

Admission: \$18 - Adults; \$16 - Seniors (65+)/College Students (18+)/Military (Active and Veteran); \$10 - Children (6-18); Free - Children (under 6); Free - Museum Members; \$1/person; \$2/family - EBT Cardholders