

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHOWCASE OF DIVERSE ARTISTS “FOR THE LOVE OF GLASS” AT LOST PINES ART CENTER

Exhibit May 1st to June 30th,

Reception and Demos May 10th, from 6 to 9pm

Demos May 18th, from 1 to 4pm

Reception and Demos June 1st, from 6 to 9pm

BASTROP, TX, May 3, 2019 – While the medium may all be glass, that’s about where the similarities end among this diverse collection of artworks showcased in the new exhibit “For the Love of Glass” now open at the Lost Pines Art Center in Bastrop. Featuring works from artists from several galleries throughout Texas, each brings a unique sense of style as well as varied backgrounds into the mix.

Visitors will be certain to find something (if not several somethings) that will catch their eye, and that they might possibly want to take home with them. They can also attend one of the receptions and demos to be held throughout the exhibit on May 10th, May 18th and June 1st, where they can learn more about the artists themselves and the art-making processes.

About the Artists and Studios:

Maria Montoya Hohenstein creates art using found objects, meaning most materials used in her art have been reclaimed and repurposed. A survivor of the Bastrop Complex Fires of 2011, she lost her home and material possessions. The profoundness of the loss has served as inspiration for her art, as she tells her story using the precious remains. Montoya Hohenstein derives her influences from Picasso’s eclectic attitude toward style and Louise Nevelson’s conceptual sculptures using found objects. She is a full-time artist, an award-winning participant in Bastrop’s First Friday, has shown at Art on the Green, The Arts Connection, Canopy in Austin, Bastrop Fine Arts Guild, Art on 12 in Wimberley and at the Bastrop Art Gallery. She resides in Bastrop and has a studio there.

Jeff Schneider is owner of J Schneider Studio in Spicewood, Texas, and specializes in the creation of one-of-a kind blown glass vessels, steel sculpture and furniture, light fixtures, and site specific installations for both public and private collections. His works have won awards including Septemberfest in Midland, Artistic Excellence Award at Conception Arts in Austin, and Celebration of the Arts. Pieces can be found at galleries throughout Central Texas.

Ghost Pepper Glass is a public glassblowing studio on the near east side of Austin, Texas, the only glassblowing studio of its kind in the Austin area, and seeks to create an environment that caters to both the most skilled glass artisan, while inviting the most novice enthusiast. Ghost Pepper Glass is a space for artists and craftspeople to dream big and work together to create that which can only be made by hand.

Katie Plunkard has been blowing glass since 2006 but she became fascinated with glass much earlier when she saw glass artisans working on the island of Malta at the age of 11. After finding a public glassmaking studio years later in her home town of Chicago, she tried her hand at making a cup and was instantly hooked. With a background in both sculptural work and functional tableware, Katie enjoys blurring the lines between decorative art and functional craft while also trying to imitate patterns found in textile work wherever possible.

Lauren Hunt has over a decade of glassmaking under her belt, and has made a little bit of everything. For six years, she worked at the prestigious Corning Museum of Glass, representing them both on the demonstration stage at The Museum, as well as, their stages on Celebrity Cruise Lines. Lauren is one of the lead gaffers at Ghost Pepper and takes on commissions, fabricating work for other professional artists who work in other mediums, and is continuously designing new work for her own brand.

Shara Funari is a Texas native, coming up through the San Antonio glass scene via a true grit, production studio apprenticeship. Her work represents her wide range of skill and appreciation for the material, often focusing on complex techniques for creating patterns and textures while showcasing the natural and unique qualities of glass. She has also worked extensively on utilizing recycled and repurposed glass to create beautiful light fixtures and tableware which are available in limited sets.

Three Dimensional Visions came to life when husband and wife, Sally and Michael, decided to meld their creative talents and share their passion for glass with their community. Like their relationship, their studio is the perfect marriage of science and art (Sally's a geoscientist, and Michael's a sculptor), and that's why they're so passionate about showing others the art of glass blowing.

Sally Pennington Moore has an MS Economic Geology and a BS Geology from the University of Georgia, and spent 35 years as a Geoscientist with ExxonMobil, but don't let that fool you into thinking she's not an artist at heart. Upon retiring she followed that heart, and in partnership with husband and best friend, Michael Kerry Brown, opened Three Dimensional Visions in Tomball, just outside of Houston.

Michael Kerry Brown was born in the Great Plains of Kansas, and began creating art early in life. He taught art history and studio classes at both the college and high school levels, and has an MFA in Sculpture from the University of Houston. He did graduate work at North Texas State, the University of Kansas, Fort Hayes State University, and the University of Nebraska. He has been a practicing artist for over 40 years, and has always had a home studio.

Patrick Kerry Brown is a musician with a BS in Business Management & Marketing, who became hooked on glass blowing when he agreed to attend a class with his parents. Said to be the most intuitive glass blower of the three, he has worked the hardest to develop his skills. He is studio manager and head gaffer at Three Dimensional Visions. He uses his background along with his enthusiasm to get the job done and teach others.

Caliente Hot Glass is a professional glass blowing studio in San Antonio, Texas whose focus is on the authentic experience of blown glass for artists, collectors, participants, and spectators alike. Artists have full creative autonomy in the creation of their art. The gallery showcases original glass art by artists from San Antonio, Boerne, and Austin. Art is created by hand using classic Venetian methods tempered with American ingenuity, and they never use molds to mass produce pieces.

Glen Andrews engages in the art of glassblowing to experience fire as an energy and force for creation. He works in unity with the glass, utilizing extreme heat to create life, beauty, and grace, by guiding it on its own metamorphosis into something pristine and mysterious. His creations are offered as tangible communications of grace to the world. Glen is based in San Antonio, where he also teaches private lessons for both the intrepid soul and aspiring artist. He is currently pursuing a series of provocative creatures as well as collaborations with artists in other fields.

Ruth Bushman is Creative Development Director at the Caliente Hot Glass studio, as well as a resident artist. This dichotomy of business and creativity allows her to showcase her versatility and innovative style, and express herself in a multitude of platforms.

The "For the Love of Glass" exhibit begins on May 1st, and runs through June 30th. There will be a reception and demos held on Friday, May 10th from 6 to 9pm, and again on Saturday, June 1st from 6 to 9pm. Demos will be held on Saturday, May 18th from 1 to 4pm. All will take place at the Lost Pines Art Center, located at 1204 Chestnut Street in Bastrop, Texas. Wine and refreshments will be served at the receptions.

For more information about exhibit "For the Love of Glass" or the Lost Pines Art Center please visit our website at www.lostpinesartcenter.org

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The Lost Pines Art Center is a gem of culture and fine art hidden away in historic downtown Bastrop, Texas. A modern and spacious art gallery, it is home one-of-a-kind fine art exhibits by mostly local and regional artists, in-residence artist studios, a sculpture garden, as well as a variety of classes and workshops, and host to exclusive events.