

Press release:

The Academy of Arts, Architecture & Design in Prague presents

GLASSMANIA

Bohemian Glass Masters at Tent London

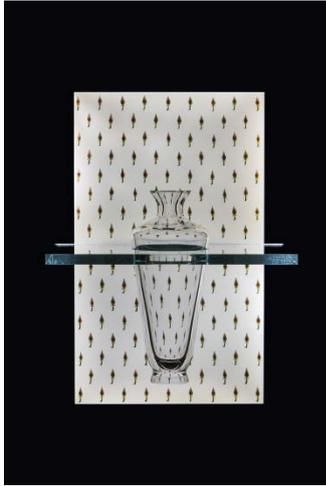
In 2015 the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design celebrates an important anniversary. In the autumn of 1885 the school was officially founded as the first educational institution of its kind in the country and now, 130 years later, will mark this jubilee with a series of events.



One of the cornerstones of presentation of the Academy is the annual participation of the studios at international design shows such as the Milan furniture trade fair Salone Internazionale del Mobile, DMY in Berlin, Brussels Design September and the current London Design Festival, where the academy will be building on its successful studio presentations of last year at Tent London.

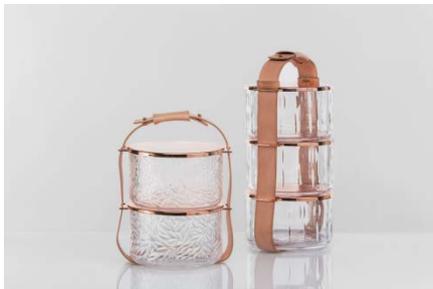
GLASSMANIA, a joint project of AAAD, CzechTrade, the Czech Centre in London and five Czech glassmaking firms – Astera, Clartés, Evans Atelier, Kolektiv Ateliers and PRECIOSA Lighting, presents work by students of the Academy. In the words of the Glassmaking Studio head, Rony Plesl, GLASSMANIA is “a project in which the dexterity of Czech glassmakers elevates Czech design and the creativity of the students refines the craft and extends its boundaries”. Alongside projects implemented in intensive collaboration with students, the firms also present their highest quality glass products.

The entire presentation is enhanced by the concept of the exhibition, designed by the architecture students – members of Gold Medal Studio - Matúš Buranovský, Jakub Herza and Josef Tomšej, which offers visitors to Tent London a glimpse into the manufacturing processes of the exhibiting firms.



Valentina Hejdová design for Kolektiv Ateliers

Visitors can thus become acquainted with the environment of the Aster glassmaking studio, which produced Daniela Chodilová's variable decorative glass project that in formal terms refers to the famous Czech mess tins and Michaela Doležalová's *Madonna Solace* lighting object created in collaboration with PRECIOSA Lighting. Another eye-catching project, arising from collaboration between the student Valentina Hejdová and Kolektiv Ateliers, is a wall-mounted object presenting to visitors the technique of hand-painted glass and the transfer of ornament onto a glass object using its optical properties.



Daniela Chodilová design for Astera

The selection for presentation and implementation of joint projects of AAAD students and Czech glassmaking firms are bringing unexpected sources of inspiration to both sides. The students are acquiring very valuable experience in adapting to the product lines, and making use of technologies that correspond to the facilities of the individual glassmaking firms. The companies, in turn, can try out cooperation with young future designers under the leadership of the school studio, thereby combining the tradition of Czech glassmaking with fresh ideas from the academic environment. In the words of Jiří Pelcl, Vice-Rector for PR and International Relations, "GLASSMANIA is proof that the celebrated tradition of Czech glassmaking is still developing successfully and reacting to world events, while retaining its own identity based on the craftsmanship and mastery of Czech glassmakers.



Michaela Doležalová design for PRECIOSA Lighting

Exhibitors: Michela Doležalová, Rony Plesl, Daniela Chodilová, Kristýna Venturová, Jaroslav Klaus, Lenka němccová, Pavel Výtisk, Jitka Kamencová Skuhravá, Vendula Prchalová, Martin Pouzar&Radomíra Jandová, Valentina Hejdová, Jaroslav Šára

Exhibition curator: doc. ak. soch. Rony Plesl

The Czech designer Rony Plesl graduated from AAAD in 1990. He is an internationally sought-after, award-winning artist, whose glass objects occupy prominent positions in art collections in Germany, USA, the Netherlands, Japan and other countries. He exhibits regularly abroad. His work can be seen, for example, in the interior of Zoom Hotel and Bellevue Restaurant. He has led the Studio Of Glass at AAAD in Prague since 2008. In collaboration with PRECIOSA Lighting, he is exhibiting at Tent London his Mercury chandelier inspired by the iconic Theresian chandelier given a contemporary, modern look.

The exhibition is supported by: CzechTrade London, Czech Centre London, Matuška Brewery, Techo a.s.



GLASSMANIA

Tent London

Old Truman Brewery

25 Hanbury Street

London E1 6QR

Thursday 24 – Sunday 27 September 2015

10 am - 8 pm

Glassmania Exhibition Opening

Thursday 24 September at 8 pm, stand C10

Artisan Beer Matuška on tap

Further information:

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About the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague

The Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague was founded in 1885. It has always ranked among the highest quality educational institutions. Proof of this is the number of successful graduates who now belong among respected experts and whose prestige reaches beyond the borders of the Czech Republic.

The school is divided into six departments - Architecture, Design, Fine Arts, Applied arts, Graphics, and Theory and History of art. The individual departments are subdivided into ateliers according to their professional specializations and are led by respected personalities.