



THE ARTS COMMISSION

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The Arts Commission Announces Four Finalists for the 2022 Momentum | Intersection Glass Program

TOLEDO, OH – The Arts Commission is pleased to share the finalists for the 2022 edition of *Momentum | Intersection*, an opportunity that connects artists, designers, and industry professionals at Pilkington Glass North America (Nippon Sheet Glass Co., Ltd.) for collaboration and development of new artworks. Inspired by the studio glass movement, The Arts Commission seeks to provide new opportunities connecting applications of glass as an artistic medium and manufacturing processes.

Jurors Karlyn Sutherland (Artist and Architect), Jessica Hong (Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, Toledo Museum of Art), and Alderlan Vitalino (Value Added European Director (Architectural Products), Pilkington Italia) reviewed portfolios and qualifications from applicants from around the world. The four finalists will engage in a robust in person and virtual discourse that includes seminars and tours of the NSG, Pilkington plant in Rossford, OH.

The cohort will attend seminars that cover the history of glass manufacturing; learn about materials from NSG research and development engineers; be given demonstrations on various applications of glass materials; be provided with materials of the participants choice; and receive ongoing support from NSG technical teams who will continue to be available throughout the process. After experimenting with the materials, each artist will submit refined project proposals due December 31, 2021. Up to three artists from the cohort will be given materials, a stipend, technical support and learning

opportunities through Pilkington, and exhibition space during the Momentum Festival in 2022.

The finalists are: Brian Corr, Sharyn O'Mara, Alexander Rosenberg, and Chuchen Song.

[Brian Corr \(Hastings, NE\)](#) creates sculpture and immersive installations which explore perception and perceptual liminality as a means of facilitating contemplative experience. By activating light and shadow through the ordering of volume and void, his work seeks to embody a sense of the profound and the transcendent.

Brian is currently serving as an Assistant Professor at Hastings College in the US. He was awarded a PhD in Sculpture from the Australian National University in 2018. His research examined the aesthetic and philosophical elements of contemplative space in Japanese architecture.

His work is held in numerous public and private collections throughout the world, including the Toledo Museum of Art, the Denver Art Museum, the National Gallery of Australia, and the Art Gallery of Western Australia. His work has also been selected for inclusion in the international juried publication *New Glass Review* on five occasions.

Brian is also a skilled glassblower with over twenty-five years of experience. He has taught extensively at schools including the Corning Museum of Glass, the Penland School of Crafts, the Pilchuck Glass School, the JamFactory, Namseoul University, Sydney College of the Arts, and the Australian National University. After working and studying in Australia for nearly twelve years, Brian recently served as an Associate Professor at the Toyama City Institute of Glass Art in Toyama, Japan.

[Sharyn O'Mara \(Philadelphia, PA\)](#) is an artist whose interdisciplinary practice spans glass, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, and installation. Her work is interconnected by her interest in the marks of language and the language of marks. In her practice, she resists the fast-consumption-culture of media and image, working instead to make physical/material/tangible the experiences of loss and longing that permeate our lives. Through these works, she acknowledges the moments of quiet and empathy that are most often overlooked, the subtle imprints that would otherwise fade without notice. Often working with the residue of daily life that is usually swept away, her work marks existence and reminds us of its fleeting nature.

Her work has been exhibited in the U.S. and abroad, and is in several public and private collections including The Corning Museum of Glass, Toledo

Museum of Art, Arkansas Museum of Fine Art, and the Philadelphia Eagles. She is Associate Professor of Glass at Tyler School of Art and Architecture at Temple University and served as program head of glass from 2009 - 2019. She has also taught at Kansas City Art Institute where she introduced glass to the sculpture curriculum, and at Rhode Island School of Design.

O'Mara lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with her husband, daughter, and their shepherds. In her scant free time, she can be found driving transport for a shepherd rescue organization or for injured urban wildlife (especially kestrel falcons and opossums) that have a mysterious way of making their way to her stoop.

Alexander Rosenberg (Philadelphia, PA) is an artist, educator and writer based in Philadelphia. He received a Master of Science in Visual Studies from MIT and a BFA in glass from Rhode Island School of Design. His artistic practice is rooted in the study of glass as a material, in conjunction with broad interdisciplinary investigation crossing over into many other media and research areas.

Alexander pursues his practice with artist residencies, teaching, performances and exhibitions locally and internationally. He is the recipient of the 2020 Proctor fellowship, the 2012 International Glass Prize, and a 2019 Awesome Foundation Grant, The Sheldon Levin Memorial Residency at the Tacoma Museum of Glass, A Windgate Fellowship at the Vermont Studio Center, The Esther & Harvey Graitzer Memorial Prize, UArts FADF Grant, and the deFlores Humor Fund Grant (MIT). He has attended artist residencies at RAIR, The MacDowell Colony, Wheaton Arts, Urban Glass, Vermont Studio Center, StarWorks, Pilchuck Glass School, GlazenHuis in Belgium, Rochester Institute of Technology, and Worcester Craft Center. His writing has been published in Glass Quarterly Magazine, The Glass Art Society Journal, and the Art Blog. He was a founding member of Hyperopia Projects (2010 - 2018), headed the glass program at University of the Arts (2010 - 2017), and was an artist member of Vox Populi gallery (2012 - 2015). He was cast on the Netflix Series, *Blown Away* in 2018 and he currently teaches at Salem Community College.

Chuchen Song (Toledo, OH) (b. 1995, Qingdao, China) is a glass enameling artist, who utilizes an ancient glass enameling technique, called grisaille, to paint on glass. Her current body of work involves a series of enamel fired glass which contains a variety of symbolic images to discuss how contemporary Chinese women deal with traditional Chinese social order from the perspective of the female gaze.

Chuchen received her M.F.A. from the glass program of Southern Illinois University Carbondale in 2021, and her B.F.A. in design from the China Central

Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing in 2017. Currently she lives and works in the US.

The *Momentum / Intersection* glass program is part of the Momentum Festival suite of programming. The Momentum Festival is generously sponsored by ProMedica, NSG Inc. / Pilkington North America, the National Endowment for The Arts, the Ohio Arts Council, private donors, and Toledo's philanthropic community. If you'd like details on sponsorship information please contact Kelly Rose Hirsh at KHirsh@TheArtsCommission.org.

Additional information available at theartscommission.org

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The Arts Commission is the longest standing arts commission in the state of Ohio, founded in 1959, administering the City of Toledo's One Percent for Art Program since 1977. The Arts Commission is supported in part by the Ohio Arts Council and by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.