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News Release

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THE SCULPTURE CENTER ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF
TWO OF WANDS, WITH NEW WORK BY ADAM MILNER & ALLISON SMITH
AND

SWING STATES: RECENT PERSPECTIVES IN GLASS SCULPTURE FROM THE MIDDLE WEST

Opening September 21, 5:30 – 8:00 pm

On view September 21 – October 26, 2018

Join us for dual opening receptions on Friday, September 21 at 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. with *Two of Wands*, new work by Adam Milner and Allison Smith and *Swing States: Recent Perspectives in Glass Sculpture from the Middle West*, curated by glass artist Zac Weinberg

The Artists and Curator Talk: Selected Artists and Zac Weinberg at 6:15 p.m. in the Euclid Avenue Gallery

The Artists Talk: Adam Milner and Allison Smith at 7 p.m. in the Main Gallery

This is a campus-wide evening of openings with the Artists Archives of the Western Reserve's *Recast*, their second ceramic invitational, and an open studio for the Davis Sculpture Gallery

Two of Wands is the first collaborative exhibition between Adam Milner and Allison Smith, who met in Pittsburgh, PA, while Allison was living there this past year. Both are making new work and reexamining older work for the exhibition. Adam's practice focuses upon recollection, collections and the act of collecting, and an ordering of the randomness of objects and memories as a means for recall and reconsideration. Allison considers historical patterns, events, traditionally held beliefs, and recent momentous events, as the attacks by white supremacists in Charlottesville, VA, and creates sculptures, installations, and performances to put forward other ways of interpreting them. The *Two of Wands* is the tarot card that signifies ideas of the couple or a pair as well as notions of potential and possibility. The title references a magic and a doubling which relates to many of the works Adam and Allison are creating for the exhibition. Both see the potentiality of objects – they resonate with vibrancy and have multiple meanings within them.



Adam Milner, *Some Body* (detail), 2017, teeth, bones, soap, polymer clay, cast plaster, chewing gum, and found objects on a custom table; 109 parts. Courtesy of the artist.



Allison Smith, *Untitled (blunt instruments)* and *Untitled (many sides, many sides)*, 2018, cast iron, cast concrete, and mixed media. *Be Not Still: Living in Uncertain Times*, di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art, Napa, CA

For *Swing States: Recent Perspectives in Glass Sculpture from the Middle West*, early career sculptor and glass artist Zac Weinberg takes a critical look at contemporary glass practices in Ohio and Pittsburgh, traditional centers of glass making since the mid-nineteenth century. The exhibition showcases new glass work by Jennifer Halvorson (Muncie, IN), Kim Harty (Ferndale, MI), Nate Ricciuto (Columbus, OH), Heather Clancy (Pittsburgh, PA), Joanna Manousis (Maumee, OH), Alli Hoag (Toledo, OH), Sean Merchant (Brunswick, OH), and Mike Stevens (Toledo, OH).

Curator Weinberg notes, “This exhibition highlights emerging artists from a generation who have internalized the developments and technologies that have advanced this material over the past 56 years. Glassmaking techniques, once elusive trade secrets, are now taught at schools and widely distributed across the internet, vastly broadening the working options of today’s practitioners. They embrace the sculptural movements of the preceding decades that redefined making and objecthood, utilizing glass for the many transformative qualities and associations that it encompasses. These artists feel free to operate simultaneously or sequentially in the multiplicity of aspects inherent within glass.”



Nate Ricciuto, *Surrogate Activities*, 2016, bark, mirror, aluminum foil, LED lights, ping pong balls, mixed media, 26 x 8 x 8 in. Photo: Tony Walsh.

Heather Clancey, *Hollywood Cleaners*. Courtesy of the artist.

Artists' Bios

Adam Milner is an artist treating personal experiences as a site of anthropological inquiry: observing, interviewing, collecting, and archiving, carefully but somewhat distanced. Studying and drawing upon the various ways we connect with material and social worlds, as well as how we hold on to those moments through objects, Milner combines and confuses spaces like the hoard, the archive, the museum, and the home. The resulting works take the form of performances, sculptures, drawings, texts, and interventions which examine broader politics of relationships and intimacy. Rooted in longing, the archives ultimately point to their own subjectivity, creating blurred categories which embrace queerness. Milner has exhibited at the Andy Warhol Museum, the Aspen Art Museum, MCA Denver, Casa Maaud, Flux Factory, Gildar Gallery, and David B. Smith Gallery and created a commission for the current issue of *The Third Rail*. An Art at the Frontier Grant from the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry led to *Nowhere Voyage*, a performance and documentary surrounding a grindr-led cruise liner. Milner received an MFA from Carnegie Mellon University and has upcoming projects at the Mattress Factory and The Clyfford Still Museum. See Adam's past work here.

Allison Smith was born in Manassas, Virginia, in 1972, and later went on to graduate from The New School for Social Research. She then achieved a BFA in fine arts from Parsons School of Design and an MFA in sculpture from Yale University School of Art. She has produced over twenty-five solo exhibitions, installations, and performances at establishments including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, The Arts Club of Chicago, and SIGNAL Center for Contemporary Art among many more. She has also been involved with many group exhibitions including some at P.S.1./MoMA and The Tang Museum. Smith also lectures at schools and museums at home and abroad. Smith has received funding from many programs, and has held residencies in Sweden, New York, Massachusetts, Texas, and California. She currently has work on display at multiple museums including the Whitney, LACMA, Saatchi Gallery, and many private collections. Learn more about Allison and see her past work here.

Allison was teaching at Carnegie Mellon University when she and Adam met. She has now returned to San Francisco to take the post of Dean of Fine Arts of the California College of the Arts, where she previously was the Head of Sculpture.

Zac Weinberg earned his BFA from New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University (2009) and his MFA from The Ohio State University (2015). Currently, he is working as a Glass and Sculpture Technician at Bowling Green State University. Weinberg's specialty is glass, but he works across mediums – appropriating archetypical forms, and upturning expectations of archival forms and commodities. His most recent exhibition was *Zac Weinberg: The Lampshade Variations*, a Sculpture Center W2S 2018 exhibition.

Jennifer Halvorson is an Artist and Assistant Professor of Glass at Ball State University. She earned dual BFA degrees in Glass and Metal at the University of Illinois and a MFA in Glass from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Jennifer also studied at the Australian National University as an exchange student and at Danmarks Designskola as a Fulbright Scholar. Her mixed media works revolve around the importance of objects that are manipulated or collaged to express a range of emotions and

narratives. Her sculptures have been exhibited internationally throughout the United States and Europe.

Kim Harty is an artist, writer, and educator. Her work investigates the connection between craft and technology through sculpture, installation, video, and performance. She is heavily informed by her training as a glass blower, and draws on her personal history as a craftsman to explore how kinetic knowledge can be tracked, embodied, and performed. Her work has been shown in galleries and museums across internationally including the Toledo Museum of Art, the Design museum Gent, the Chrysler Museum of Art, and the Corning Museum of Glass. She is currently an assistant professor of glass at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan.

Nate Ricciuto merges sculpture, glass, image and performative objects in envisioning perception and representation as existing in the odd space between the technical and the intuitive. His work has recently been exhibited at Weston Art Gallery (Cincinnati, OH), The Museum of American Glass (Millville, NJ), Islip Art Museum (Islip, NY), S12 Galleri (Bergen, Norway), ICEBOX Project Space (Philadelphia, PA), and Pilot+Projects (Philadelphia, PA) among others. Nate is currently a Visiting Lecturer at The Ohio State University and an Instructor at Columbus College of Art & Design in Columbus, OH. He earned an MFA from Tyler School of Art, and holds a BFA from The Ohio State University. Nate has been an Emerging Artist in Residence at Pilchuck Glass School and a Creative Glass Center of America Fellow, and in 2017 received an Individual Excellence Award from the Ohio Arts Council.

Heather Clancy is an artist who works primarily in cast glass to create sculptures referencing the changing built environment. Through the reference of aged locations she works to create a platform for discussion of personal memory and passing time. The subject of her work stems from observing the urban environment she inhabits as an adult in contrast to her own rural upbringings in Deerfield, Ohio.

She received her BFA from the Cleveland Institute of Art (2018) and now finds herself as a Tech Apprentice at the Pittsburgh Glass Center. Her work has earned her several Scholarships including the Viktor Schreckengost Scholarship, Glass Art Society's General Scholarship, and the Penland Higher Education Partners Scholarship.

British – American artist, **Joanna Manousis** lives and works in the United States, creating sculptural objects and installations in glass and mixed media. She has earned numerous awards and internationally recognized nominations for her work, including a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Nomination in 2017, The Margaret M. Mead Award through the Burchfield-Penney Arts Center in 2011, the Hans Godo Frabel Award for 'Outstanding Achievement in Glass' in 2010, and a Bombay Sapphire Award nomination for 'Excellence in Glass' in 2008. Manousis has created her work within major public museums and studio residency programs, including The Toledo Museum of Art, OH, The Museum of Art and Design, NY, The Corning Museum of Glass, NY, and Cité Internationale des Arts, France. Her work has been exhibited internationally at institutions and art fairs including The Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Denmark, The British Glass Biennale, UK, Salon Art + Design, NY and FOG Art + Design, San Francisco. Holding a Masters of Fine Arts in Sculpture from Alfred University, New York, and a First Class Honors Bachelor Degree in Fine Art from The University of Wolverhampton, England, Manousis has worked, studied and taught in Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Australia.

Alli Hoag's artistic practice is concerned with themes of magic. Seeing magic as the desire to connect with the world outside of our perceptual and cognitive abilities, she attempts to create moments where one can believe that distance is overcome. Alli works across mediums of glass, installation, video,

performance and digital technology to investigate this uniquely human desire, and to reveal the simultaneous lightness and heaviness that is created when the imagined or invisible is labored into the physical realm. She has exhibited both internationally and nationally including UrbanGlass NY, and S12 Galleri in Bergen Norway. In her glass performance collaboration with performance artist Tinna Thorsteindottir, Bylta, she has performed at Corning Museum of Glass, Urbanglass NY, and the Chrysler Museum. She currently serves as Head of the Glass Program at Bowling Green State University.

Sean Merchant is an artist and educator currently based in Brunswick, Ohio. Sean was raised in Northwest Illinois and received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Illinois State University in 2005. Sean completed his Master of Fine Arts from Ohio State University in 2017. From 2007 to 2014, Merchant was the art director for the architectural art glass firm Jacksonville Art Glass, in Jacksonville, IL. Sean's work has been featured in Sculpture Magazine (Oct '17), as well as American Glass Now: 2017 (American Glass Guild). Merchant was included in the 2017 International Sculpture Center's Outstanding Achievement in Student Sculpture awardee exhibition, and in 2016 he participated in Bullseye Glass's biennial exhibition and catalog "Emerge/Evolve" 2016. His work has exhibited recently at the Collective Artist Network (CAN) Triennial in Cleveland, Ohio; Belger Crane Yard Studios, Kansas City, MO; Logan Center for the Arts, Chicago, IL; and the National Cathedral, Washington D.C.

Mike Stevens started blowing glass in Indianapolis, Indiana, at a small community art center within his neighborhood. After a few years of classes he applied to and attended Bowling Green State University and graduated with a BFA in 2012 with a focus in glass and sculpture. After school he moved up to Toledo, Ohio, to open Gathered Glass Studio with Adam Goldberg and Eli Lipman. They have been successful with integrating themselves into the community and have created public works for organizations such as The Toledo Zoo and the local hospital system of Promedica. As a studio they hope to continue to make public art and private installations for many years to come.

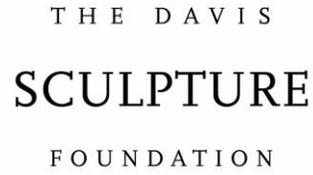
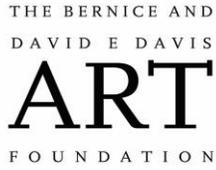
about The Sculpture Center

The Sculpture Center is dedicated to the education and career advancement of emerging sculptors of Ohio and its greater region and the preservation of Ohio outdoor sculpture as a means and to affect the enrichment, education, enjoyment, and visual enhancement of the Cleveland community and beyond.

The Sculpture Center is located in Cleveland's University Circle neighborhood at 1834 East 123rd Street, south off of Euclid Avenue, beside Lake View Cemetery and two blocks from Little Italy.

The Sculpture Center galleries are open Wednesday through Friday from 10 am to 4 pm, Saturday from noon to 4 pm, and other times by appointment. The Sculpture Center offices are open weekdays from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Programs and hours are subject to change. Admission, parking, public receptions, and gallery talks are always free. The Sculpture Center is handicapped accessible.





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