

# within lightinside glass

within light / inside glass  
an intersection between art and science

February 8 › April 19, 2015

Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti  
Palazzo Loredan, Campo Santo Stefano, Venice

## Short Artists' profiles

### Teresa Almeida / Portugal

She is a young artist and designer interested in exploring the link between art and technology. She is currently working with luminescent glass, reconstituting aesthetic forms whose point of departure is environmental destruction. Her main interests are technology, handicrafts, ecology, sustainability and design for empowerment and social innovation.

### Mika Aoki / Japan

She works mainly with glass. Her works represent spores, microorganisms, mould, natural forms, and biological systems scattered over the most diverse environments that become animated in the presence of light. Her research is somewhere between science, art and fantasy. Her transparent and delicate works seem to disappear in the dark and become visible only with light.

### Enrico Tommaso De Paris / Italy

As a multi-media artist he uses the most expressive language from painting to installation, from video to digital images. His works have their roots both in science and in philosophy. His installations, quite often site-specific, transform the space in which they are exhibited into a place of reflection on contemporaneity: the macro and microscopic reality become represented like our DNA, like the atoms from the time of Democritus that represent the elements composing any material. Everything arrives in a mixture of light and sound, glass, plastics and steel.

### Armanda Duarte / Portugal

The artistic universe of Armanda Duarte is everyday life. Her works, always small and discrete from the point of view of dimension and vision, are small stories, fragments of seemingly insignificant reality. The quiet materials are her favourites, because with their low profile they avoid the kind of ostentation that she hates in her works of art.



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## **Veronica Green / New Zealand**

Her origins and studies allowed her to live in close proximity to the culture and the art of the Maoris, which has strongly influenced her work. She uses bright and dense colours, brilliant materials and fluorescent paint, ingredients that transport us to her symbolic world. Her works are developed on different levels of interpretation and formal realisation: beginning from the light of day the natural areas that are represented plunge the observer into all-consuming and deceptive domains, transporting him to the darkness of a completely different world, one that is also magic and seductive.

## **Alan Jaras / Great Britain**

He is a scientist and an artist who after leaving his career as industrial researcher and microscopist has directed his energy to the study and relation between art and science. Alan Jaras transforms light into art works. His works are classical photographs of light beams passing through sheet glass with varying surface attributes at differing angles. Multi-coloured images result from this process, recalling the depths of the sea or far-away galaxies.

## **Anna-Lea Kopperi / Finland**

Anna-Lea Kopperi is a conceptual artist known because for her interactive and environmental works, installations and public sculptures, which lead us to consider the environmental, architectural and social aspects of the places in which they become situated. Her ephemeral and site-specific projects use subjective perceptions in order to pose existential questions. She often employs mirror fragments set in very specific ways to reflect the surroundings and refract light creating a surreal, spiritually evocative atmosphere.

## **Richard Meitner / Holland**

The poetic and intellectual work of Richard Meitner reflects a great variety of influences, from Japanese textile to Italian painting, from applied arts to science. His works in glass often include other materials, such as rust, enamel, bronze, terracotta, and paint. Meitner plays with unusual juxtapositions of shapes and materials that speak to the interface between art and science, intellect and spirit.



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## Éric Michel / France

He is a French multi-media artist who works mainly with light and colour. His light-works are essentially based in research on the immaterial. Light plays a very important role and is the vehicle for conveying his sensitivity. Its both wave and particle nature, material and immaterial, effects transportation from the real to the imaginary.

## Diogo Navarro / Portugal

He is an artist especially interested in expressing the pictorial potential of different materials. His works on canvas or wood are made of an assemblage of materials in which light frequently is the main actor. Clusters of painting explode like flashes, metal and glass reflecting the external light, which then becomes part of the work of art.

## Fernando Quintas / Portugal

He is interested in the connection between painting and tri-dimensionality. In his works, quite frequently sculptures in glass, he plays with colours and with light to create a short circuit between volume and surface. The dialogue between architecture and the environment is a recurring element in his work.

## Silvano Rubino / Italy

His artistic activity includes photography, video and sculpture. His interest is focussed on the activation of space and the relationship between the environment and the viewer, between the work and the public; quite often returning to form studies, studies of light and equally to the exploration of words. The material he usually uses for his sculptural works is glass, worked by the skilful hands of the Murano artisans, is deprived of most of its traditional qualities (luminosity and transparency) and acquires a more ambiguous, deceptive nature.



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## **Elisabeth Scherffig / Germany**

Her artistic research revolves around the concept of space. The primary technique is drawing, very detailed and able to show us surfaces in the smallest details, perceivable as the intimate structure of things. Over the last years she has devoted herself to the observation and photography of heterogeneous glass surfaces, which she converts into pastel drawings on paper. This project connected with glass is a study, through drawing, of vision and light.

## **Cesare Toffolo / Italy**

He is a Master of glass and artist who is renowned for the creative ability he applies to the development of new techniques for lampworking. His manual virtuosity and mastery of glass allow him to make very complex works of art in which the human figure is always present, even if it has a secondary role with respect to the architectural foundation which surrounds and overpowers it. He began some years ago working with luminescent glass to make works in dialogue with science.

## **Robert Wiley / USA**

Robert Wiley's research is currently focused on study of the nature of creativity, and points of approach and divergence between art and science. Understanding the deeper mechanisms of creative thought (artistic and scientific) is the most important element of his work, often works in glass, in which the material acquires a symbolic role. His artistic practice emerges from exercise and meditation, leading him to create works that span the gap between analytical thought and poetry.



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