Press Release (24 July 2016)

**STANISLAV LIBENSKÝ AWARD 2016 to present the best works of young glass artists and designers from around the world**

The prestigious international **juried exhibition of glasswork, the Stanislav Libenský Award,** is now entering its eighth year. The competition is open to young artists from around the world doing their bachelor's or master's degree who worked with glass for their final thesis work.

The fame and reputation of the contest rises every year, as does the interest of participants and the professional and lay public. As has become customary, this year again brought a record number of applications. The competition has attracted young artists not only from Europe, but also from other countries such as the US, Israel, China or Guatemala.

In the first round, the **international jury**, comprised of respected experts and glass artists, selected **38 participants to advance**, coming **from 20 countries from around the world.** The works of these selected participants will be presented at an exhibition this autumn at the **DOX Centre for Contemporary Art from 15 September to 14 November 2016.**

On the jury this year sit important professionals from the field of glass working such as **Helena Koenigsmarková**, director of the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague, **Maja Heuer**, founder and director of the Swedish centre The Glass Factory, **Erika Tada**, Japanese glass artist and teacher active in the United States and Japan, **Charlie Parriott**, American glass artist producing his own and commercial works since 1972, and **Petr Nový**, the chief curator of the Museum of Glass and Jewellery in Jablonec nad Nisou. The project's expert guarantor is **Milan Hlaveš**, head of the glass, ceramics and porcelain collection at the Museum of Decorative Arts.

The grand prize for the winner is a three-week stay at the Pilchuck Glass School in the USA.

*"The selected works represent a broad range of possibilities in working with glass. Visitors can look forward to a survey of works including jewellery, design pieces, traditional handicraft, as well as conceptual objects using various media that are more in the category of free art and video art,"* states **Kateřina Čapková**, director of the Prague Gallery of Czech Glass, the main organiser and initiator of the competition.

The Stanislav Libenský Award is in many ways a unique event. For students it provides an opportunity to meet and inspire each other, to compare different approaches and methods, and above all to present their work to an international public. **For the public it provides a chance to get to know the work of the youngest generation of glass artists from around the world in one place** and to take a look into the future of a field that has a long tradition in Bohemia.

The Stanislav Libenský Award competition honours the eminent Czech glass artist. The works of Stanislav Libenský, made in collaboration with Jaroslava Brychtová, are exhibited in museums and galleries around the world. **Stanislav Libenský** was not only an accomplished artist, but also a teacher, having taught at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague and run the Glassmaking Secondary School in Železný Brod, where he also lived and worked.

More information at [www.libenskyaward.com](http://www.libenskyaward.com) and [www.facebook.com/StanislavLibenskyAward](http://www.facebook.com/StanislavLibenskyAward)

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