



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Please post through May 15, 2011

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Concepts in Glass
April 11 – May 15, 2011

Opening Reception: Friday, April 15, 6 – 8 pm
Gallery Talk with the Curator and Artists: Saturday, April 30, 2pm

The **New Art Center in Newton** announces the opening of ***Concepts in Glass***, its Spring exhibition that features the work of four Boston artists who consider the material of glass through sculptural and conceptual lenses. Curated by Hillary Faccio (Jamaica Plain, MA), an artist and Independent Curator who co-curated *Glass Perspectives: New England Artists* at the Concord Art Association in 2004, it features the work of Faccio and three faculty members at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design: Alan Klein (Arlington, MA), Professor, Massachusetts College of Art and Design; James McLeod (Boston, MA), Assistant Professor, Massachusetts College of Art and Design; and Christopher G. Watts (Roxbury, MA), Visiting Professor, Massachusetts College of Art and Design. **The Opening Reception will take place on Friday, April 15th from 6 to 8 pm. There will be a Gallery Talk with the curator and artists on Saturday, April 30th at 2 pm.** All events are free and open to the public.

The artworks in ***Concepts in Glass*** explore glass as a sculptural medium. Traditionally and historically, glass is associated with functional and everyday objects –tableware, vessels, stained windows, and other decorative art objects. ***Concepts in Glass*** will exhibit glass as a richly varied and conceptually driven artistic medium central to the practices of artists today.

The free standing sculptures of **Hillary Faccio** are three dimensional interpretations of petroglyphs, early rock carvings which can also be interpreted as language. **Alan Klein** uses the physical properties of glass conceptually, from its molten to solid states, to demonstrate an action or an interaction frozen in time— a “Moment of Inertia.” **James McLeod** questions the origin of memories through the tensions inherent in the material of glass. He asks: where do memories come from, are they accurate, do they evolve or decay? A master Venetian glassblower, **Christopher G. Watts** uses various glass techniques to create a conceptual body of sculpture that addresses issues of race, class, and perceived and agreed value. He uses the natural beauty of glass as an entry point for viewers to read the narratives that are at the heart of his installations and his formal and material choices.

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Concepts in Glass is one of three selected proposals submitted to the New Art Center as part of the Curatorial Opportunity Program (COP) for the 2010-2011 exhibition cycle. The COP enables first-time or established curators to explore experimental approaches in the presentation of contemporary art. In addition to gallery space, curators receive a stipend, administrative support, insurance, promotion, and assistance in exhibition design and installation. Each year, the Center issues a public call for group show proposals and selects exhibitions through a juried process. Since its inception in 1991, the COP has shown the work of over 1200 artists and 75 curators. More information on the COP, including proposal guidelines, is available at www.newartcenter.org. The next deadline for receipt of proposals is April 11, 2011.

Featured in the smaller Holzwasser Gallery during the same dates: ***Themes and Variations in Print and Glass. Works by Bonnie Mineo and Michel L'Huillier.***

The New Art Center in Newton

Gallery Hours: Mon – Fri, 9am – 5pm; Sat 1 – 5pm. The Main Gallery is wheelchair accessible.
Address: 61 Washington Park, Newtonville, Massachusetts
Transportation: The nearest T stop to the New Art Center is Newton Highlands on the Green Line (D/Riverside), then take the #59 North bus on Walnut Street, exit at CVS. Call the MBTA at (617) 722-3200 for schedules + fare information. The NAC is also accessible from the Mass. Pike, Route 128, or the Newtonville stop on the commuter rail (Framingham line).
Information: Contact: Kathleen Smith at (617) 964-3424 or Kathleen@newartcenter.org or visit www.newartcenter.org

*The New Art Center in Newton is a non-profit art organization established in 1977 and has been dedicated to artistic creation and education through classes, exhibitions and public programs for children and adults for thirty-two years.
The New Art Center is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.*

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