

Massimo Micheluzzi

20 June - 31 July 2013



A leading artist in the world of contemporary glass, Massimo Micheluzzi's exquisite works in polychrome glass will be displayed for the first time at willer from 20th June. For those already familiar with his monochrome work, always on show at the gallery, this exhibition will reveal Micheluzzi's widely acknowledged mastery in combining traditional techniques with an exceptional colour sensibility to create highly coveted unique pieces characterised by a beautifully refined modern aesthetic.

With work selected for the important exhibition currently at the Musée Maillol in Paris (*'Murano, chefs-d'oeuvre de verre de la Renaissance au XXI siècle'*) Micheluzzi's already considerable reputation continues to be recognised and enhanced. A biography and list, further below, sets out the history of his achievements.

Micheluzzi employs classic murrina and battuto techniques, but while many Italian glass designers are traditionally beholden to the skills of the master glassblower, Micheluzzi maintains an unusual amount of control over the making processes of his works. Murrina panels that the artist composes and fuses in his studio are relinquished to the glass master for only a small percentage of the total process. Once formed at the furnace, the vessels are returned to Micheluzzi for extensive cold carving. The results are subtle, sophisticated pieces of solid, reserved form alive with the dense opaque colour, pattern, fluidity, and effortless elegance of his native Venice.

Micheluzzi says of his work:

"Glass is hard, inflexible, and incorruptible by nature, mysterious in its essence - an obstinate material to work. If you mishandle glass or work it without due care and attention, it reveals its hidden fragile nature and can cheat you by self-destructing. But if you truly love glass and you really try to understand its needs, it will reveal its infinite creative possibilities a bit at a time, rendering an extraordinary depth of color and lucid surfaces, which can then be transformed into opacities as you wish. My mission is to elicit more confidence from the material, hoping that slowly it will reveal its secrets to me."

Bio:

Born in Venice in 1957, Micheluzzi studied art history at Ca' Foscari, the University of Venice. Introduced to the world of glass by the Venini family, in 1993 he began collaborating with Laura de Santillana, granddaughter of Paolo Venini. Within a few years, he was producing works of his own, and in 1998 he had his first exhibition in Milan. Since then, he has become a familiar name in Artglass and exhibited in cities all over the world, including Paris, New York, London, Rotterdam, and Kanazawa, Japan.

For further information please contact Tamasine Osher on tamasine.o@willer.co.uk or +44 (0)20 7937 3518.

Exhibitions and Museum collections:

2013

"Murano – Fragile", Musée Maillol, Paris (Catalogo)

2012/2013

"Vetro Murrino da Altino a Murano" (Murrino Glass from Altino to Murano) presso il Museo del Vetro, Murano. A cura di Rosa Barovier Mentasti. Catalogue

2011

"The contemporary Venetian glass ", Hallwylska Museet, Stockholm
Curator Rosa Barovier Mentasti for The Fondazione di Venezia Collection. Catalogue

2009

"COOL glassworks " Brutto Gusto" Gallery, Berlin

2008

"Il vetro è duro" (solo) Catalogue. Pron Art & Design, Torino Italy

2007

"Vetro d' Artista" Madonna di Campiglio a cura di Rosa Barovier Mentasti

"SOFA" Chicago, Galerie Sanske, Zurich

2006

"Collect " Victoria and Albert Museum, Galleria Blanchaert

Massimo Micheluzzi "New Work " (solo), William Traver Gallery, Seattle

Translations and Transformations: 1950-2006, Canergie Museum, Pittsburgh, U.S.A.

2005

Massimo Micheluzzi - New Glass Vessel (solo) Barry Friedman Gallery, NY

Aldeburgh Festival 2005, Strand Gallery, Aldeburgh

Massimo Micheluzzi (solo), Sanske Gallery, Zürich

Massimo Micheluzzi (solo), William Traver Gallery, Tacoma

Craft Alliance: Tradition Transformed: Murrini Glass, St. Louis

International Glass Exhibition Laura Russo Gallery, Portland

2004

"Vetri nel mondo. Oggi – Venezia" a cura di Rosa Barovier Mentasti, Palazzo Franchetti, Venezia

Aldeburgh Festival 2004, Strand Gallery, Aldeburgh

SOFA, Barry Friedman Gallery , New York

Le Pavillon de Printemps des Antiquaires et des Beaux-Arts, Paris with Clara Scremini Gallery, Paris

Le Pavillon de Printemps des Antiquaires et des Beaux-Arts with Barry Friedman

"Massimo Micheluzzi" (solo), Brutto Gusto Gallery , Rotterdam

"Massimo Micheluzzi" (solo), William Traver Gallery, Seattle

2003

"Craft Now", World Craft Forum Kanazawa 2003, Japan

"Solo (x) 4" Barry Friedman Gallery, New York

"Laboratorio Anfora – Venezia" a cura di A. Dorigato, Venezia

"Cool" Brutto Gusto. Rotterdam

Contemporary Decorative Arts Exhibition 2003 Sotheby's. London

2002

"Rouge" Massimo Micheluzzi (solo), Clara Scremini Gallery, Paris. Catalogue
"Glassway", Museo Archeologico Regionale di Aosta. Catalogue
"Vetri International Glass". Seattle WA. Massimo Micheluzzi (solo)
SOFA New York with Barry Friedman Gallery
Le Carrousel du Louvre with Clara Scremini Gallery, Paris
Le Carrousel du Louvre with Barry Friedman Gallery, New York
Pavillon des Antiquaires et Beaux Arts. Paris with Scremini Gallery
Art Rotterdam, Brutto Gusto Gallery, Rotterdam
Contemporary Decorative Arts Exhibition 2002, Sotheby's, London
"New Artists New Work", William Traver Gallery, Seattle
"Cultura" Basel, Galleria Blanchaert

2001

"Smart" Carrousel du Louvre, Paris. With Clara Scremini Gallery
"Glass and Ceramics". Galleria Blanchaert, Milan
"Pavillon des Antiquaires et de Beaux Arts" Paris, Clara Scremini Gallery.
"Contemporary Decorative Arts Exhibition" 2001. Sotheby's, London
"Vetri" Massimo Micheluzzi (solo), Galleria San Nicolò, Venezia

2000

"Vetri" Massimo Micheluzzi. Clara Scremini Gallery, Paris (solo). Catalogue
"The Vessel": International Interpretations. Habitat Galleries, Pontiac
"Glass and Ceramics" Galleria Blanchaert, Milan

1999

"Vetri", Galleria Blanchaert, Milano (solo)

1998

"Coquillages", Galleria Blanchaert (solo)

Museums and Permanent Collections:

The Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, New York
Ernsting Stiftung Alter Hof Herding Coesfeld-Lette, Germany
Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam, Holland
Wheaton Arts – Museum, Millville, N.J.
Musée Sars Poteries, France
The Museum of Fine Arts (MFAH), Houston, Texas
The Metropolitan Museum, New York
Museum of Arts and Design, New York
Fondazione di Venezia, Venezia
Villa Necchi Museum, Milan
Palazzetto Bru Zane Fondazione, Venezia

willer

12-14 holland street kensington london w8 4lt
t: +44 (0)20 7937 3518 e: info@willer.co.uk w: www.willer.co.uk