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GALLERY

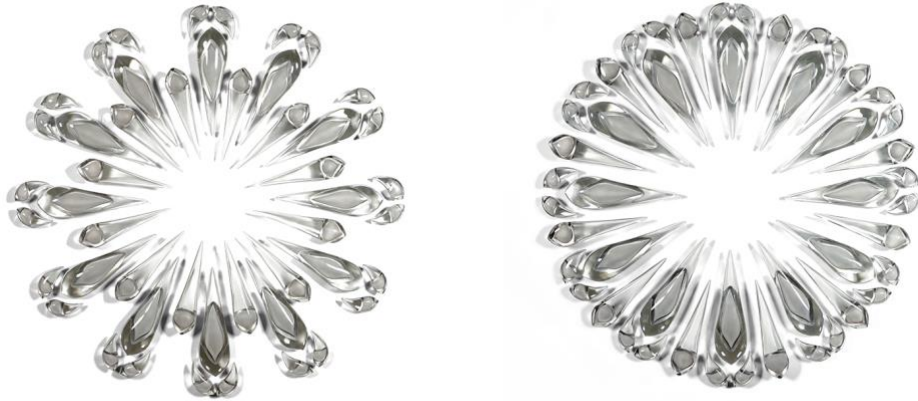
PRESS RELEASE

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FIGS AND URNS III, (two configurations), 2020, cast crystal/stainless steel/aluminum, 50 x 50 x 3 1/2 in.
(dimension varies with composition arrangement)

focus | JOANNA MANOUSIS

September 17 – October 24, 2020

New York -- Heller Gallery is pleased to announce our representation of British-born artist, sculptor and glass-maker Joanna Manousis.

We will open our first exhibition of her work *focus | Joanna Manousis* on Thursday, September 17, 2020. The show features new and recent pieces, looking at her cast-glass assemblages as well as her most recent installation, *Morpho-Eugenia*, comprised of glass elements blown into digitally designed and fabricated molds.

The exhibition explores the development of Manousis' multi-part pieces – through four wall pieces – *Figs and Urns III* (2020), *Indra's Web* (2015), *Luna Opal* (2020) and *Morpho-Eugenia* (2020) – and two versions of *Golden Thread Decanters* (both 2019). While the works in the exhibition have mostly been executed in the last two years, they track the conceptual evolution of the main themes the artist has developed in her work over the better part of the past decade.

The wall installations, in particular, demonstrate the breath of Manousis' mastery of the material but also her art-historical literacy. They showcase her curiosity about process and her willingness to test its versatility, while manifesting the strength of her discipline. Ultimately, they entice by harnessing beautifully mirrored light to provide reflection and a space for self-reflection.

Speaking about early works in this series, curator Susie Silbert wrote: 'adopting the form of a cathedral's rose window, but replacing the passive transmission of light with an optic

reflectivity, in these pieces Manousis emphasizes the universality and interconnection between all people. Reflected collectively...we are each individual kernels and a unified totality whose power is derived not from an unseen force above, but rather through the collective refraction of the gilded light within.'

Joanna Manousis received her BFA from The University of Wolverhampton, England and an MFA in Sculpture from Alfred University, New York, NY. She has received support from internationally recognized residency programs including the Glass Pavilion at the Toledo Museum of Art, Ohio; the Museum of Arts and Design, New York; the Corning Museum of Glass, New York; and Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France. Her work has been exhibited at Design Miami and Art Basel, Basel, Switzerland; FOG Art + Design, San Francisco; the Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Ebeltoft, Denmark; and the British Glass Biennale, Stourbridge, England. It is held in public and private collections in the United States and Europe including the Toledo Museum of Art (OH) and the Glasmuseet Ebeltoft in Denmark.

Due to the social distancing requirements in place in New York City, the *focus | Joanna Manousis* exhibition will open during regular business hours on Thursday, September 17, 11am-6pm to allow for timed viewing.

Please call (212.414.4014) or email us (info@hellergallery.com) to make an appointment.



THE GOLDEN THREAD (HEX DECANTERS), 2019, cast crystal/24 carat gold mirror, 11 x 11 x 3 1/2 in.