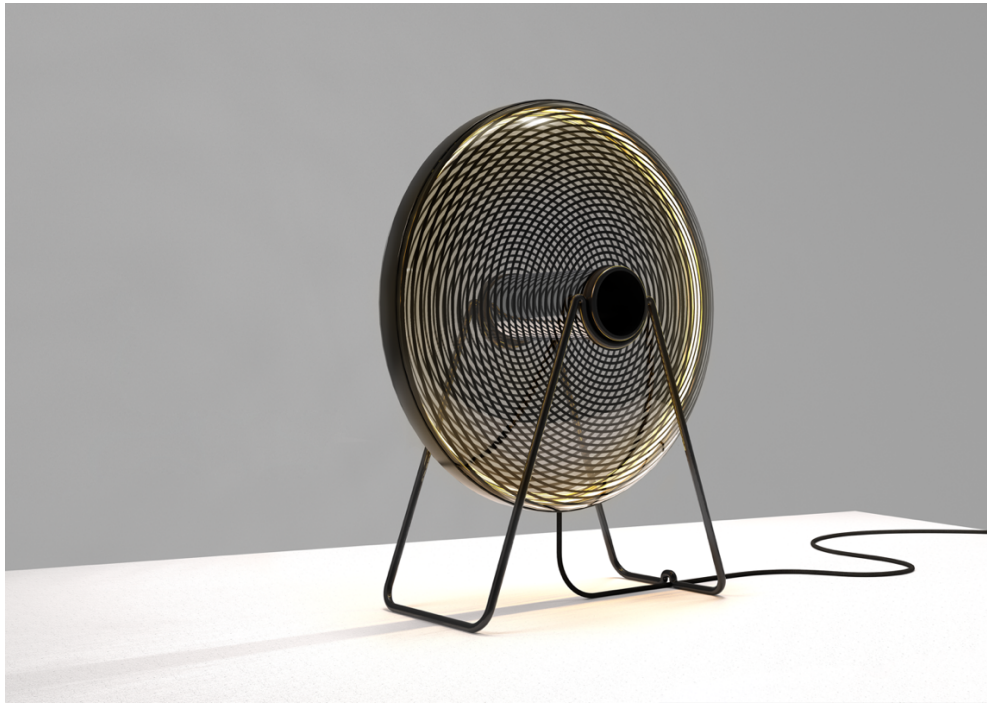


WONDERGLASS

ABRAKADABRA

WonderGlass takes the magic of glass to Fuorisalone with a striking group exhibition



Kimera, by studiopluz

On the occasion of the 61st edition of Salone del Mobile, from April 18th to 23rd, WonderGlass once again occupies the evocative 19th-century spaces of the Istituto dei Ciechi to showcase the new collective exhibition Abrakadabra, realised under the artistic direction of Jean Blanchaert – staging installations created by Paul Cocksedge, Tom Dixon, Elisa Ossino, John Pawson, Elena Salmistraro, studiopluz, Bethan Laura Wood, and Dan Yeffet.

*"This exhibition," says **Jean Blanchaert**, "not only explores the vitreous material in visual culture but also celebrates it as the DNA of WonderGlass: the expert techniques animating their furnaces and workshops in the Venetian region."*

The family-run company, founded on Maurizio and Christian Mussati's passion for glass, Italian craftsmanship and the Venetian tradition, once again celebrates the authentic gestures of artisans and the inspirations of designers, as translated in the three

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techniques of master glassmakers - blown, fused and cast glassmaking - capable of creating magnificent and awe-inspiring worlds.

Abrakadabra, a word which in the communal imagination signals mystical incantation, is here a tribute to the magic of glass, its transfigurative power and spectacular showmanship of manufacturing. The Fuorisalone exhibition is a rare opportunity and unique chance to intimately encounter the performative playfulness of material translated by the designers' distinctive flairs. The curatorial vision takes spectators into fantastical dreamscapes – discovering worlds of light, colour and shadowplay.

*"We believe in the vibrant conversation between art and design; we are inspired by the idea of finding that ever-evolving fascination given by the mix of innovation, craftsmanship and wonder. For this 61st edition of Salone del Mobile, we have decided to reveal what normally lies behind: tangibly making real the three main glass processing techniques in a bold and innovative way" - says **Christian Mussati, Founder of WonderGlass**. "Glass will be conceived and presented to its fullest potential in all its manifestations, from art to design, from architecture to fashion. The aim is always to activate new and organic synergies, revealing the magic that can be generated when creativity and craftsmanship combine with imagination."*

Each work is created by experimenting with glass' full potential, highlighting artistic expression and realising true uniqueness in result. Artisanal production is seen as poetry; technical evolution reads as emotion – a dialogue of unlimited creativity in design.

The inherent wonder in glass – such as its capacity to self-sculpt – replicates magical processes as part of its manufacture: the glassmakers, true glass wizards, give emotion a shape and, simultaneously, the installations become phantasmagoria of light, texture, and colour.

The group exhibition harmoniously combines the endless possibilities of cast glass seen in the hands of John Pawson and Tom Dixon; the contemporaneity of fused glass as explored by Elena Salmistraro; the sculptural nature of mould-blown glass by Dan Yeffet; the luminous filigree carapace, somewhere between myth and reality, by studiopluz; the surreality of colourfully textured glass floating tapestry by Elisa Ossino and the free-form illuminated triptych by Paul Cocksedge.

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61st edition of the SALONE DEL MOBILE

Opening dates:
18.04.23 - 22.04.23

Press Preview: 17.04.23

Location: Istituto dei Ciechi - Via Vivaio 7

Artist List:

Paul Cocksedge
Tom Dixon
Elisa Ossino
John Pawson
Elena Salmistraro
studiopluz
Bethan Laura Wood
Dan Yeffet

About WonderGlass

WonderGlass is a story made in Italy: a family business founded in 2013 by father and son, Maurizio and Christian Mussati, with the vision of preserving the skills and techniques of the Venetian master glassmakers, stimulating new luxury markets for design-led glass. Based between London and Italy, WonderGlass has revolutionised the classic rules of glassmaking, making them contemporary and innovative, by synthesising the Venetian traditions of impeccable Italian craftsmanship with the cosmopolitan talents of today's global art and design leaders. The connections and influences between ancient techniques and contemporary creatives has always been a competitive advantage for the brand. As of 2018, the brand becomes a group: a team of highly qualified glassmakers, institutions, creatives, partner companies and research institutes. The collaborative nature of the studios for one-off collections have become abiding partnerships – resulting in a comprehensive mastery in cast, blown and fused glassmaking. On these pillars the group builds a temple to craftsmanship, art, architecture and design, giving shape to never-before-seen projects carrying complex souls.

wonderglass.com
@wonderglassltd
#abrakadabra

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About Jean Blanchaert

Jean Blanchaert (Milan, 1954) is a gallerist, curator and art critic. Founded in 1957 by his mother Silvia, the Blanchaert Gallery in Milan has had hundreds of exhibitions in Italy and abroad, presenting the work of some of the world's best artists- craftsmen. Blanchaert has curated dozens of exhibitions in institutional venues, in the fields of glass, ceramics, iron, wood and marble, as well as art and photography. Since 2008 he has been a regular contributor to the monthly magazine Art e Dossier (Giunti Editore). During Fuorisalone del Mobile 2013, Blanchaert Gallery presented Lezione di Enzo Mari, a collection of resin objects designed by Enzo Mari and produced by Corsi Design Factory. In 2018, as part of the event Homo Faber. Crafting a more human future, he curated together with Stefano Boeri, Best of Europe, an exhibition gathering hundreds of Craft Masterpieces made by craftsmen-artists from all over Europe (Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice). Since 2017 she has been a member of the Scientific Committee of The Venice Glass Week, an international festival dedicated to the art of glass, Venice. In the framework of the first edition of the festival, Jean Blanchaert curated, together with Noah Khoshbin, the exhibition Robert Wilson in Glass, organised by Fondazione Berengo. In the same year, he was curator, with Adriano Berengo, of the exhibition Memphis-Plastic Field at Palazzo Franchetti, Venice. In 2019, with Costance Rubini, he curated Memphis-Plastic Field at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs and du Design, in Bordeaux. As part of the exhibition Glasstress 2019 (Fondazione Berengo, Murano), he is curator of the installation Constellation by Robert Wilson. Also, for Homo Faber and again with Stefano Boeri, he is curating the exhibition Next of Europe (Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, April 2022).