

Resources for Learning about Contemporary Glass

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► There are so many wonderful studio and contemporary glass resources that I can barely scratch the surface in 15 minutes! I selected a few of my favorites to highlight today.

Resource Guide (LibGuides)

I am compiling a Resource Guide (LibGuide) for contemporary glass that will be available on www.cmog.org next week. It references the resources I'll review today.

► While you're on the page, take a look at our glassmaking technique guides as well, for glassblowing, frameworking, kilnworking, beadmaking, coldworking, and more specific guides for Venetian style glassblowing, color, and more.

We send these guides to our Studio students prior to their class and encourage them to come early or stay late to peruse library resources.

I'll begin with internet resources for contemporary glass. Then I'll focus on some specialized materials on the Corning Museum of Glass website.

► The Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass – an organization for collectors - brings together invaluable links for the subject.

► I find the links for:

- Glass artists
- Galleries
- Museums and
- Organizations especially useful.

They keep the links up-to-date and have gathered a wealth of information about contemporary glass and glassmakers.

► Glass Art Society – or GAS – whose members include artists, collectors, and curators - provides extensive resources on their website:

- ► Such as the Member Directory – If I'm looking for glass artists worldwide I start here.
► Artists fill in the information themselves with their website, contact information, and the types of glass they create.
- GAS has a comprehensive list of glassmaking schools. Look for public access studios under "resources"; and college & university programs plus workshops under the "students" tab.
- Their lists of organizations, museums that show glass worldwide, and publications differs from the Art Alliance's – so look both places.
- Their digital submission guidelines and tips for artists who want their photographs to look professional could be useful for any artist

- Some parts of the website are for members only, for example, students may publish their thesis online
- Their Journal covers the annual GAS conference with short papers from presenters; the online newsletter, GASnews, promotes ongoing exchange of ideas and information.

There are numerous professional associations for contemporary glassmakers. Explore their websites for worthwhile resources.

- ▶ For instance, the Scientific Glassblowers Society offers training videos (many of their members create artwork)
- ▶ Stained Glass Association of America publishes an online “Sourcebook” with resources for artists and the public. Their publications, include their Reference and Technical Manual & an excellent review of historic and contemporary stained glass: The Story of Stained Glass.
- ▶ International Society of Glass Beadmakers features extensive information about safety issues in flameworking studios (also useful for furnace or kiln workers) with an extensive bibliography for fire, respiratory, and eye safety as well as ventilation basics.
- ▶ The Guild of Glass Engravers – in England – is another useful source.

Take another look at the Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass’ organization list to find other professional glass societies – or contact us at the Rakow Library.

It’s not possible to talk about the many journals and books published. A few periodicals stand out:

- ▶ Glass Quarterly, published by the Urban Glass workshop in Brooklyn highlights artists and exhibits. ▶ They also have an online newsletter.
 - ▶ Neues Glas = New Glass Art & Architecture, published in German and English, is international in scope
 - ▶ New Glass Review is an annual survey of glass in art, architecture, craft and design. Artists submit images & 100 are selected by a panel of judges. The review is published by The Corning Museum of Glass, ▶ and winners’ slides going back to 1977 were digitized and may be searched on the CMOG website.
- ▶ The Chronology and Bibliography of Studio Glass combines highlights from Studio Glass history together with pivotal books, catalogs, and periodicals. www.warmus.com/Studio%20Glass%20Chronology%20by%Warmus.htm
- ▶ If you are looking for glassmaking tips, try vendor websites. For example, this one from Bullseye Glass features extensive educational tools.

► Explore museum websites with strong glass collections – these and others highlight contemporary glass:

- Toledo Museum of Art was home to the workshop that inspired the Studio Glass Movement
- ► Museum of Glass in Tacoma – features strong educational tools and live-streamed glassblowing. I was distracted by watching Lino Tagliapietra as I was putting this talk together! They offer so many videos!
- ► Chrysler Museum’s glass science educational tools are useful
- ► Ebeltoft Glass Museum in Denmark has an international perspective.

► There is an endless supply of social media sites related to contemporary glass. On Facebook, the Glass Secessionism and Critical Craft Form are two worthwhile groups. Pinterest and Instagram are filled with images of glass and glassmaking. It’s fascinating to follow glass artists on these sites.

Next, I’ll focus on the resources of The Corning Museum of Glass.

► The Juliette K. and Leonard S. Rakow Research Library of The Corning Museum of Glass (or CMOG) is the world’s foremost library on the art and history of glass and glassmaking. Its mission is to acquire everything published on the subject of glass, in every format and in every language. In short, “We tell the world about glass!”

We currently have about half-a million titles that support the study of the museum’s glass collection. We also have strong collections in ceramics, metalwork, jewelry and other decorative arts.

The Rakow Library is open to the public 7 days a week, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. There is no admission fee and anyone is welcome. An appointment is encouraged, but not necessary.

But it can be challenging to get to Corning, so we make a real effort to make our collection available to distance users worldwide.

Contemporary glass continues to play an enormous role in Corning

Today, our Studio trains glass artists with a program similar to Pilchuck; last year we opened a sensational new wing devoted to contemporary glass sculpture; and many of our visitors participate in a 45 minute glassmaking experience.

On www.cmog.org, you’ll find the Rakow Library under the “Research” tab.

Online Catalog

► Of course, you’ll find our online catalog on the library’s website.

► To improve search results, our catalogers add extensive annotations for many items, particularly videos and exhibition catalogs. We often record all of the artists who are included in a show. That’s information you won’t find in WorldCat. We add tables of contents and notes about glass content.

If a Corning Museum of Glass object is illustrated, you will find a note listing the glass accession number and page number.

We use Library of Congress subject headings, together with local subject headings crafted for glass topics. Sometimes LC adopts our suggestions for new headings. (lampworking).

► We began digitizing our collection about five years ago and you'll find links in the catalog when digital copies of books are available. The emphasis has been our rare books, trade catalogs, slides, documents and archival materials. But you'll find some contemporary materials, for example our [New Glass: a Worldwide Survey](#) catalog.

Article Index

► If you're searching for information about contemporary glass or glassmakers, be sure to check the [Article Index](#).

The Rakow Library currently subscribes to about 500 magazines – many relate to contemporary art, art history, design, architecture, collectibles, and related subjects.

Our Bibliographer, peruses every journal looking for articles, book reviews, and exhibit reviews relating to glass and glassmaking. The information and his annotations are added to our database, the [Article Index](#). It's not full-text, but we provide citations for a wide range of journals that are not covered in other indexes. If you're looking for articles about any type of glass, this is a great place to start.

We do participate in Interlibrary Loan, if we have two copies of a book (and we try to acquire two copies of our glassy ones) or we send photocopies and scans of articles. We do not loan videos.

Collection Browser

► The Collection Browser offers an alternative searching method to find contemporary glass materials. The Collection Browser on the CMOG website links our library collections to Media Bin (our DAM data asset management system) and with Mimsy (the glass collection database).

In this search for Harvey Littleton, you'll find glass objects and library materials simultaneously. It doesn't work perfectly – but you can search by type of glass; artist; period; and more.

The database includes high quality photographs, mixed with quick record shots that identify pieces of glass in the collection. CMOG has published numerous books about contemporary glass over the years, so you'll find lots of professional images.

Resources in the collection browser – library materials & glass – show up in a Google search, so distance patrons can locate us that way as well.

Images policy

The Museum makes available images, text and data on the Museum and its collections to scholars, students and the general public for personal, non-commercial, educational and academic purposes or for fair use as defined in the U. S. copyright laws.

Fair use with our contemporary objects may depend on our agreement with the artist, so check with the museum's Rights and Reproduction team if you're interested in publishing images.

Any commercial reproduction or publication requires a prior written license signed by the Museum's Department of Rights and Reproductions.

Our policy is available on the website. If you have questions, we have a team –including library members – who make prompt decisions about fair use. Generally, there is no charge for images.

Special collections

► A wide range of materials in the library may be useful for researching contemporary glass – archives (there are 72 boxes in the Dominick Labino archive), auction catalogs, and trade catalogs. We have extensive artist files.

► Our “Ask a Librarian” includes question/answer pairs relating to glass and glassmaking.

► Search the CMoG website for “contemporary glass” you'll find blogs, articles, our glass dictionary, videos – we stream videos too – and much more.

A couple highlights:

► **GlassApp** (<http://glassapp.cmog.org>) was launched with the opening of the Contemporary Art + Design Wing in March 2015. Featuring information on 70+ contemporary works of art,

► GlassApp includes videos, artist bios and photos to enhance the visitor experience by highlighting current conversations in art, craft and design.

Venetian Glass

► Contemporary glassmakers often employ Venetian-style techniques in their work. A new online publication, The Techniques of Renaissance Venetian Glassworking, by William Gudenrath, ► reconstructs how these objects were made: <http://renvenetian.cmog.org>

► Fascinating and precise video demonstrations for Filigrana, Reticello, and other specialized types of glass, together with definitions and photographs, help glass collectors and makers understand the historical forms, shapes, and decorative techniques.

► Please explore the resources on the CMoG website and visit the museum's new contemporary wing.

But while you're in Seattle and Tacoma there are so many amazing places to see and learn about contemporary glass.

Jim Baker and Walt Lieberman will highlight different aspects of the glass scene here.

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