

Galleria Giorgio Mastinu wins the fifth edition of the Premio Fondazione di Venezia per The Venice Glass Week with the exhibition “Ronan Bouroullec, Inchiostri”

Florian van Dalen has won the first edition of Premio The Studio – Corning Museum Of Glass per The Venice Glass Week Hub Under35, dedicated to young artists, while Clare Belfrage has been awarded the Premio Arteria per The Venice Glass Week HUB.

Four Special Mentions and a Special Recognition for architect Matteo Silverio were also conferred.

Venice, 18 September 2025 – The awards ceremony of the ninth edition of **The Venice Glass Week**, the international festival dedicated to the art of glass which is enlivening Venice, Murano, and Mestre until 21 September 2025, took place this evening at **Palazzo Franchetti**, home to the **Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti**. The evening saw the presentation of three major awards and represented one of the most significant moments of the festival.

The ceremony opened with the official presentation of the **Committee for Glass Scholarships**, a new and important international agreement signed by the **Corning Museum of Glass**, the **Fondazione Giorgio Cini** and **Pentagram Stiftung**, **Ca' Foscari University of Venice** and **Università Iuav di Venezia**, and **Laguna~B**. The Committee was created with the aim of enhancing and expanding access to scholarships, training courses, and workshops dedicated to glass between Venice and the United States. Through the creation of a portal hosted on the Corning Museum of Glass website, the project promotes the exchange of expertise and educational experiences between Europe and America, fostering dialogue across disciplines, cultures, and different approaches.

For the first time in the history of the festival, two new prizes dedicated to the artists exhibiting in the two HUBs of the event were also announced. The **Premio The Studio – Corning Museum Of Glass per The Venice Glass Week Hub Under35** offered a study residency at the prestigious Corning Museum of Glass in New York. The winner, **Florian van Dalen**, selected by the jury composed of **Amy Schwartz**, Director of The Studio, Corning Museum of Glass; **William Gudenrath**, Resident Advisor, The Studio, Corning

Museum of Glass; and **Dedo von Kerssenbrock-Krosigk**, Independent Scholar, for the work *Wave*, will be able to attend one of the international Summer Classes in 2026. “In our view,” stated the jury, “*Florian van Dalen’s work shows remarkable potential, and we wish to support him in the development of his practice. We appreciate the simplicity of design and construction. We particularly enjoyed the way light creates colors through the use of dichroic glass. We look forward to seeing what van Dalen will create in the future.*”

Meanwhile, the **Premio Arteria per The Venice Glass Week HUB** was awarded to **Clare Belfrage** for the work *In The Glow Of Green, Collection*, selected by the jury – **Cristiana Donadel**, Head of Arteria Srl Venice office; **Cristina Tonini**, glass historian, curator of the Study Days on Venetian Glass at the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti and board member of the Association Internationale Histoire du Verre – Italy; **Mikkel Hammer Elming**, Director of Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Denmark; **Rainald Franz**, art historian and curator of the Glass and Ceramics Collection at MAK – Austrian Museum of Applied Arts in Vienna and curator of the Josef Hoffmann Museum in Brtnice, Czech Republic – among the projects exhibited in the HUB at **Palazzo Loredan**. The work was recognized for its ability to “*tell of the layering of time, life, death, decay, and regeneration – elements ever-present in the rainforest landscape. At the same time, it is a statement on the fragility of this environment, made tangible through the choice of glass as the expressive medium, rendering the work profoundly contemporary.*”

The jury also decided to award two Special Mentions: to **Yoav Reches** for the work *DIFFUSE #3*, for its capacity to explore the intersections between technology, human experience, and material culture; and to **Lukas Novac** for *Pretty Mirage*, a work the jury described as “*a natural continuation towards the future.*”

The evening continued with the conferment of a Special Recognition to **Matteo Silverio**, architect and curator of the exhibition *Vero Casanova* at the **Museo del Vetro di Murano**. He was honored for his research which, stated the jury, “*combines artistic experimentation, entrepreneurship, and attention to sustainability, also through glass recycling.*” The award celebrated the journey of a figure who, through research, design, and curatorship, has contributed to renewing and enhancing Venetian glass art with a contemporary outlook.

Following this, the official presentation of the **Premio Fondazione di Venezia per The Venice Glass Week** took place, awarded to **Giorgio Mastinu Gallery** for the exhibition *Ronan Bouroullec, Inchiostri*, winner of this edition and recipient of a €1,000 cash prize. The project – a series of vases with infinite combinatorial possibilities, a bridge between cast glass, so widespread worldwide, and Murano blown glass – was recognized by the jury for its “*reduced formal vocabulary made up of light, color, treated surfaces but, above all, of*

poetry, enchantment, and magic.”

The jury, composed of **Jean Blanchaert**, curator; **Giovanna Palandri**, Chancellor Emeritus of the Istituto Veneto; and **Paola Marini**, General Councillor of the Fondazione di Venezia, also decided to award two Special Mentions. These went to **Marignana Arte** in collaboration with **Giulio Malinverni & Francesca Vacca** for the exhibition *Calcedonia. Paste Vitree Muranesi*, a project which, declared the jury, “presents vases, jugs, and utilitarian objects of great refinement, made between the mid and late 19th century by **Lorenzo Radi Senior and Junior, Macedonio Candiani, Francesco Ferro & Son, and Compagnia Venezia Murano**”; and to **Antonio Dei Rossi** and **Luca Giannola**, in collaboration with the **Fondazione Venezia Per La Persona – Gioielli Nascosti Di Venezia – Ipav**, for the exhibition *Ove V'è Vetro. Murrinedesign – Antonio Dei Rossi. Ri Frazioni – Luca Giannola*. “The last artist of figurative murrina in the Venetian tradition,” explained the jury, “a tradition begun by **Maestro Franchini** in 1840 and carried forward through to today,” exhibited at the **Scala Contarini del Bovolo**.

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