

NEWS

For Immediate Release 2/5/2025 Middletown Arts Center 130 N. Verity Parkway Middletown, OH 45042 Contact: Kate Dykes, Executive Director katedykes@middletownartscenter.com 513.424.2417

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Darren Goodman's "GLASS Through the Lens of an Artist" Brings a Mesmerizing Fusion of Art and History to Middletown Arts Center

Middletown, OH – Prepare to be captivated by the breathtaking artistry of glass in "GLASS Through the Lens of an Artist," an immersive exhibition by internationally acclaimed master glass artist Darren Goodman. Opening with a reception on Friday, March 7, from 6 PM to 8 PM, this exhibition invites visitors to experience the magic of glass as a medium that bridges personal expression and historical storytelling.

A Journey Through Glass and Time

Goodman's work transcends traditional glassmaking, merging art, history, and science in a collection that reflects both personal transformation and cultural evolution. Each piece invites viewers to explore the past while experiencing the raw energy and beauty of glass. This exhibition provides a rare opportunity to witness how Goodman's innovative techniques breathe new life into historical narratives, creating works that are both visually stunning and deeply meaningful.

From delicate sculptural forms to large-scale installations, Goodman's pieces showcase the interplay of light, texture, and scale. His commitment to experimentation and collaboration is evident throughout the exhibit, reinforcing glass as not just an artistic medium, but a storytelling force.

About the Artist

Born in Maineville, Ohio, Darren Goodman first discovered his passion for glassblowing while studying at Bowling Green State University. He honed his skills under master glass artist Leon Applebaum in Corning, New York, and further refined his craft alongside Dante Marioni, Lino Tagliapietra, and Davide Salvadore. In 2005, Goodman established his own glass studio in Waynesville, Ohio, and has since exhibited his work internationally. His dynamic approach to glassmaking has led to prestigious commissions, including creating trophies for Ferrari North America's International Challenge Races.

Special Events at Middletown Arts Center

Throughout the exhibition, MAC will host a series of special events that offer deeper engagement with Goodman's work and the art of glassmaking. All events are free and open to the public. More details here: https://www.middletownartscenter.com/darren-goodman

Opening Reception – March 7, 6 PM – 8 PM

Kick off the exhibition with an evening of art, conversation, and refreshments.

Fire & Ice Event – March 15, 6 PM – 9 PM

Experience the dramatic contrast of heat and ice in a night of live glassblowing, nitroblast demonstrations, and specialty cocktails crafted in collaboration with Name Brandt Distilling. This event marks the beginning of the arts center's new Annual Event Series!

Artist Talk & Story Walk – April 3, 6 PM – 7:30 PM

Join Darren Goodman for an immersive gallery tour where he shares the stories behind his art, accompanied by live musical performances.

Sensory Day – April 26, 10 AM – 12 PM

A welcoming, sensory-friendly experience featuring accessibility resources and hands-on art activities for all ages and abilities.

Community Block Party – May 10, 11 AM – 2 PM

Celebrate creativity with interactive activities, live glassblowing demonstrations, and a Touch-a-Truck event in partnership with the City of Middletown.

Don't Miss This Unforgettable Exhibition!

Step into a world where fire, glass, and imagination collide. Whether you're an art lover, a history enthusiast, or simply curious about the mesmerizing world of glassblowing, "GLASS Through the Lens of an Artist" promises to be a transformative experience.

"GLASS Through the Lens of an Artist" is the framework for the OhioReflections250 Project: Reflecting on Ohio's Past to Illuminate Our Future - Through Art, History, and Engagement, funded in part by the America 250-Ohio Commission. This engagement is part of the Annual Reunion Series, in memory of Gordon and Betty Hughes.

PHOTOS: 1) Darren Goodman Glass Artist, 2) Darren Goodman "Fantasia" Glass

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The Middletown Arts Center is an independent, non-profit institution. MAC has been dedicated to enriching Middletown and surrounding communities for over 65 years, providing exceptional educational opportunities for youth, adults and families to participate in visual arts and arts experiences with over 15 free exhibitions annually. More information about the MAC and its programs, events, and exhibitions is available at www.middletownartscenter.com or by calling (513) 424-2417.

The Middletown Arts Center's operations are made possible in part by an investment of public funds from the Ohio Arts Council (OAC). The OAC is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically.