Press release (28th July 2015)

**STANISLAV LIBENSKÝ AWARD 2015 will present the best works of young glass artists and designers from around the world**

The prestigious international exhibition of glass for students of art schools, the **Stanislav Libenský Award**, the only one in the world in which only new graduates can apply, begins its seventh edition. The prestige and reputation of the competition and exhibition increase every year, as well as the interest of the participants and the professional and general public. This year a record number of young artists from many countries applied, as usual. Young artists from Azerbaijan, Colombia and Portugal are attending the competition for the first time this year.

The international jury, consisting of recognized experts and glass artists, has **selected 40 participants from 23 different countries** **from around the world** who will have the opportunity to take part in the autumnal finale and exhibition in Prague.

**This year the jury is composed of:** Ivana Šrámková (CZ), glass artist and a student of Stanislav Libenský; Lene Tangen (NOR), glass artist, consultant of The National Museum in Oslo and a participant of Stanislav Libenský Award 2011; Florian Hufnagl (GER), former director of Die Neue Sammlung in Munich, which is the biggest design museum in the world; Ivo Křen (CZ), historian and curator of The East Bohemian Museum in Pardubice; Jean-Luc Olivié (FRA), main curator of the glass collection of the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris. The professional supervisor is Milan Hlaveš, head of the Collections of Glass, Ceramics and Porcelain in the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague. The architect of the exhibition is Jakub Berdych, a significant Czech designer and co-founder of the design studio Qubus.

**The main prize** is a three-week stay at the Pilchuck Glass School, USA. The second prize is a week stay at the Ajeto Glassworks in Lindava. Moreover, this year the contestants have an opportunity to win two special prices from the Stanislav Libenský Award’s partners – a two-week stay and participation in the workshops at the Corning Museum of Glass, USA, and the price for original design of the auction bottle of Pilsner Urquell. Three awarded contestants will have the choice to place their works at the autumnal auction, set up by the Dorotheum Auction House.

**Gala evening with the winner announcement and the exhibition will be held this autumn in Prague.**

*“Selected works will represent a variety of options for working with glass. Visitors will be able to enjoy the exhibition of jewellery, design or traditional workmanlike art pieces, as well as conceptual objects, which use various media and could be rather consider as fine arts”*, says Kateřina Čapková, director of the Prague Gallery of Czech Glass.

Thanks to the organizers from the **Prague Gallery of Czech Glass**, more than 250 young glass artists from 55 universities could present their works in Prague in last six years. Moreover, every year the exhibition is held in representative spaces with a unique atmosphere.

The **Stanislav Libenský Award** is a unique event in many ways. For students it is an impulsion to meet and inspire each other, an opportunity to compare different approaches and ways of working and primarily to present their work to an international audience and get the chance to start a successful artistic career. The public has the opportunity to become acquainted with the formation of the youngest generation of glass artists from around the world in one place and gain insight into the future of this art, which has a long tradition in the Czech Republic. The exhibition will be accompanied by a number of attractive traditionally associated events.

**More info on** [**www.libenskyaward.com**](http://www.libenskyaward.com)and[**www.facebook.com/StanislavLibenskyAward**](http://www.facebook.com/StanislavLibenskyAward)

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