

GALERIE CAROLE DECOMBE  
PARIS - LOS ANGELES

ARMELLE BOUCHET O'NEILL et SEAN O'NEILL

INSPIRED GLASS, from Seattle to Paris

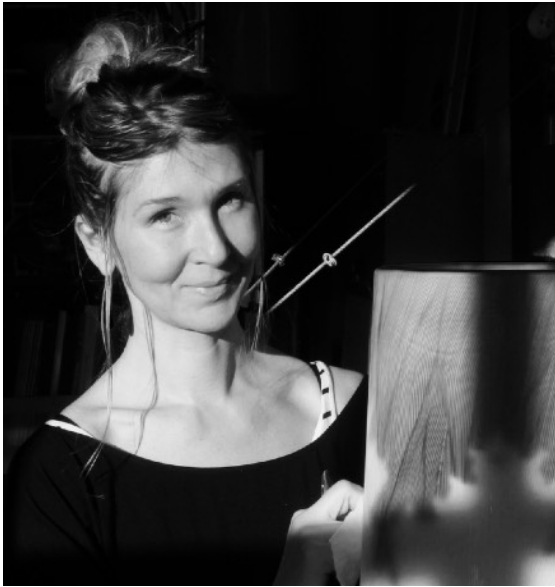
From Monday September 11th to Saturday October 14th, 2017

Private viewing on Tuesday September 12th, from 6 p.m.

For 'Flâner au Carré', the Carole Decombe Gallery presents 'Inspired Glass, from Seattle to Paris'. The exhibition, which will be running from September 11 to Saturday October 14, 2017, brings together the work of two glass artists and partners from Seattle, Armelle Bouchet O'Neill and Sean O'Neill. Their decorative objects and wall panels are made of blown, engraved, kilnformed and sand-carved glass. Their work, which will be on show for the first time in Paris, reflects their fascination with Nature, a source of inspiration that is constantly being renewed.

The exhibition will also be featuring in the 'Parcours de la Céramique et des Arts du Feu' festival, now in its tenth year. Galleries taking part in the event will be showing contemporary or antique pottery and glass alongside works from the Lair Collection at the Château-Musée de Saumur.

## INSPIRED GLASS, from Seattle to Paris



**Armelle Bouchet O'Neill**

Armelle Bouchet is a French glass artist from the Carcassonne region. After studying in France and Denmark, she was awarded a Lino Tagliapietra scholarship to attend the Pilchuck Glass School, where she met her husband Sean. Since moving to Seattle in 2009, she has become a leading member of the community of glass-blowers in Seattle and the Pacific Northwest, where she works and teaches.



**Sean O'Neill**

Sean is an American glass-blower. After taking a B.A. at Tennessee Tech University in 2005, he went on to the prestigious Pilchuck Glass School, where he served on the Board of Trustees from 2009 to 2012. He began his professional career at Benjamin Moore Inc, one of America's leading glass-blowing studios. He also works as a technical instructor at the University of Washington and in Europe.

## INSPIRED GLASS, from Seattle to Paris

The city of Seattle in the American northwest is famous for its glass-blowing and in the early 1970s enjoyed a notable artistic boom. At the time, the American Studio Glass Movement founded by Harvey Littleton had been growing for some ten years. America's leading glass-blowers abandoned mass-produced objects for more personal studio works, often one-of-a-kind. A key figure in the movement was the glass sculptor Dale Chihuly, a student of Littleton's who went on to found the Pilchuck Glass School at Stanwood, north of Seattle, in 1971. Artists and students come there from all over the globe to learn their craft or to teach. To this day, it is considered the Mecca of contemporary American glass art.

Sean and Armelle met at the school. Today, they live and work in Seattle where they have found a real sense of community and craftsmanship, and a taste for boldness and innovation that transcends the at times over-corseted approach of European traditions of glass-making.

Though different in style, their work shares a common inspiration in Nature. It's in our environment, and the way it's transformed by human activity and time, that they find the organic or topographic designs which are then delicately carried over and engraved onto blown glass.



Armelle Bouchet O'Neill, « Black Strokes ».

Sean's work is more abstract. He, too, uses glass-etching techniques to make glass platters, first hot-working them to build up layers of colour, then cold-working them for the decoration. Stone and diamond wheels are used to hollow out the mould and bring out the underlying colours. A delicate pattern then emerges, in which forms and colours blend together.



Sean O'Neill, « Eolus ».

## INSPIRED GLASS, from Seattle to Paris



Armelle Bouchet O'Neill, « Kasvu ».

For 'Inspired Glass', Armelle Bouchet O'Neill and Sean O'Neill will be showing both individual works and a number of new joint creations in which their glass-working skills are combined.

After opening a gallery in Los Angeles where she exhibits (among other things) the work of Parisian artists she has been accompanying for years, Carole Decombe is proud to be introducing the work of two outstanding American talents to French art-lovers and collectors. Sean and Armelle are the first to create a bridge in this way between American and French crafts.



Sean O'Neill et Armelle Bouchet O'Neill, « Poppy ».