

KIM FOSTER GALLERY

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Ron Desmett

Kathleen Mulcahy

Glass: A Delicate Balance

February 26 - April 4, 2015



Kathleen Mulcahy "Feeling of the Sublime," 2015. Stainless steel, etched glass plate, glass drops. 70 x 48 x 3 inches.
Ron Desmett "Feast for Small Things," 2015. Blown and etched black glass, 12 x 22 x 22 in.



Kathleen Mulcahy, *A Last Long Line of Silver Rain*, 2015.
Stainless steel, slumped and etched Sapphire glass plates and hot worked glass drops.. 10' Width

Kim Foster Gallery is pleased to present a selection of recent glass work by Ron Desmett and Kathleen Mulcahy. Each has a unique approach to the material.

Kathleen Mulcahy's glass panels imitate the look of liquid elements in nature. But there is nothing of nature's seemingly random behavior in these compositions. Instead, Mulcahy simplifies the irregularity of organic shapes to create controlled arrangements. Her glass elements may be prompted by something observed in nature, but they have been refined to a purified geometric form. Works in this series involve hot-worked and flame-worked glass shapes attached to slumped and acid etched plate glass backed by a fabricated steel sheet. The result calls to mind levees or floodgates meant to manage or prevent the flow of water.

The recent work by Ron Desmett is less dense than his prior black "Lidded Trunk Vessels." He sparingly introduces color into his glass forms. Several objects interact, some translucent and some opaque, making the whole feel less weighty, a more delicate balance. In "Swimming in Limbo," Desmett creates objects floating in what appears to be an aquatic void, but in that void they have a relationship to each other as if drawn to each other by gravity.



Kathleen Mulcahy, Steady Flow of Cool (with glass drop detail), 2015.
Patinaed steel, bent etched smoke gray glass, and hot worked glass drops.
70" H x 34" W x 3" D



Ron Desmett, *The Guardian of the Secrets* 2015.
Blown and cold worked glass and mixed media. 7 x 55 x 30 inches



Ron Desmett, *Swimming in Limbo*, 2015.
Blown and cold worked glass and mixed media. 12 x 40 x 30 inches

Ron Desmett lives and works in Oakdale, PA with his partner, Kathleen Mulcahy. For the past 30 years they have worked as independent artists on projects for installation in private glass collections, corporate offices, public art projects and solo exhibitions throughout the United States. They developed the Pittsburgh Glass Center, for which they were honored as Pennsylvania Artist of the Year in 2013. Their glass works are in many public and private collections including the American Craft Museum, The Corning Museum of Glass, The Carnegie Museum of Art, The Renwick Galleries of the Smithsonian Institution and The Westmoreland Museum of Art. They have won numerous awards including grants from the NEA, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and a Fulbright.