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GLASS, MEET THE FUTURE FILM FESTIVAL 2020 PART I

Unveiling Glass, Meet the Future Festival 2021
20 MARCH 2021 - 04 APRIL 2020 & OCTOBER 2021

NORTH LANDS CREATIVE UNVEILS ITS AMBITIOUS AND DIVERSE FILM FESTIVAL REFLECTING TODAY'S GLASS COMMUNITY

View online : [Here](#)

Building on the successful launch of the inaugural "GLASS, MEET THE FUTURE" Film Festival in 2020 online at North Lands Creative, we are excited to announce **"GLASS, MEET THE FUTURE 2021"**.

Working alongside North Lands Creative, GMTF 2021 will see an agile programme of both physical and online events taking place internationally throughout the year alongside project partners **Toyama Institute of Glass Art** with **Toyama Glass Art Museum** in Japan and new project partners the **Museum of Arts and Design, New York**.

The Festival is dedicated to presenting a selection of new films pivoting around the medium of glass. The festival will showcase a cross section of international diverse and engaging series of short films curated and directed by female identified and non-binary and filmmakers using glass as the predominant feature. Telling the stories of how art is made, how artists survive, how they think and work, and what makes creativity our most important skill.

In addition, through the continued expansion and development of **GMTF 2021** Festival, **North Lands Creative has created six commission opportunities for the creation of new festival-responsive work and associated programming**. Over the coming months, the artist commissions will research new ways of engaging with the materiality of glass in the digital era. These contributions will form part of the core schedule with festival



artist commissions, films, publication and podcast.

“We regard the festival as a microcosm to explore our relationship to and with glass and film. This includes the physical and environmental context, together with the human and social context.” **Karen Phillips, Director, North Lands Creative**

“**MAD** is thrilled to partner with North Lands Creative and Toyama Institute of Glass Art on Glass, Meet the Future Film Festival.” **Samantha De Tillio, Curator of Collections at the Museum of Arts and Design, New York**. “Movement, physicality, and a type of muscle-memory choreography are inherent to the glass-making process resulting in an increased commingling of glass and performance over the last decade. It’s this amalgamation of material and ephemeral, glass and video, at the heart of the film festival, which is so exciting.”



Frame by Frame, Simone Fezer shown as part of GMTF 2020

This energising project supported through **British Council Scotland and Creative Scotland as part of the UK in Japan**. The British Council will lead on cultural activities in Japan, bringing in work from across the UK in collaboration with a range of partners. At the same time the Japanese government will lead on reciprocal activity in the UK.

“The British Council/ Creative Scotland Partnership is delighted to see the Glass, Meet the Future Film Festival come to life, as part of North Lands Creative project with Japanese partners Toyama Institute of Glass Art and US partners the Museum of Arts and Design, New York. In a time when creative sectors across the world are enduring enormous challenges and are reimagining their work within a very different world, this digital festival spotlighting glass artists’ intersection, does exactly that. The initiative also demonstrates that the strength and vitality of Scotland’s creative links with their International counterparts remains very much alive, giving us much hope for what’s to come when we come out of the current pandemic context.”

The **GMTF 2021** film festival takes place over a sixteen-day period showcasing a new cross section of international diverse and engaging series of short films curated and directed by female identified, non-binary artists using glass as the predominant feature.

Film screenings and commissions will air on a daily schedule. The new commissions will form a core programme of the festival with artists also contributing to the festival publication (digital) and podcast.

The festival launches on the 20 March running through out 2021 with a scheduled programme running across the international partners with a hybrid approach of physical and virtual presentation. The full programme will launch 12 March 2021.

“We have spent a great deal of time curating programmes that reflect the diverse interests of our audiences,” **Karen Phillips, Director of North Lands Creative**. “This project emphasises identity, community, and the variety in the cross disciplinary approach emerging from the field of international contemporary glass. Adding a new strand with our online festival has made the experience far more powerful. The relationships with Toyama Institute of Glass Art and the Museum of Arts and Design, New York, have given North Lands Creative a starting point for conversations with the wider International glass community and audiences and has inspired far deeper and more fruitful conversations.”

Jin Hongo, Head Professor, Toyama Institute of Glass Art “We are very pleased to collaborate with North Lands Creative on the special project, Glass, Meet the Future. Glass is not only a traditional craft material steeped in rich history, but is also a continually evolving, cutting edge medium for contemporary artistic expression. In recent years, applications of glass as an expressive medium have diversified concurrently with the development of technologies and new materials. Collaborations with other fields of research and cross-platform applications within the art are expected. Glass, Meet the Future recognizes this trajectory and signals the coming era of diverse new creations and creators.”

The British Council Scotland and Creative Scotland partnership is a longstanding agreement between the organizations to develop international relationships in order to ensure Scotland’s creativity is recognised internationally.

Considering the world situation, we are very proud to be screening many powerful and never-before-seen films with glass artists and filmmakers from around the world. The Festival is dedicated to presenting a selection of new films pivoting around the medium of glass and to highlight the global glass community during this unprecedented time.

The Open Call for Applications is live until the 29 January 2021. Further information can be found online : <https://northlandscreative.co.uk/2020/09/17/glass-meet-the-future-2021-call-out-english/>

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For more information please contact:

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Notes to Editor

The British Council is the UK’s international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We work with over 100 countries in the fields of arts and

culture, English language, education and civil society. Last year we reached over 65 million people directly and 731 million people overall including online, broadcasts and publications. We make a positive contribution to the countries we work with changing lives by creating opportunities, building connections and engendering trust. Founded in 1934 we are a UK charity governed by Royal Charter and a UK public body. We receive 15 per cent core funding grant from the UK government.

www.britishcouncil.org

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and the National Lottery.

www.creativescotland.com

Since 1995, **North Lands Creative** has been a meeting place not only for glass artists but has also actively encouraged the participation of visual artists, architects and designers wishing to explore the technical and artistic potential of glass either on its own or in combination with other materials. We are situated in Lybster, a small fishing village in the far North Highlands. Our residency programme seeks to promote an atmosphere of creativity, experimentation and reflection which artists' need, by providing a working environment that supports the artistic process and the facilities for artists to work and interact. The natural setting, the harbour and surrounding sea and landscape inspires, supports and enhances the creativity of the artists who come to Lybster, by providing them with an uninterrupted time for work and exploration.

For artists, North Lands Creative engenders a strong sense of community and the chance to create more opportunities for artist to artist and artist to public interaction. The campus offers on-site accommodation, a hot shop, cold shop, kiln room, sandblasting room, mould room and a community studio, garden and gallery.

northlandscreative.co.uk



Toyama Institute of Glass Art, Japan

Situated between the deep waters of Toyama Bay and the rising peaks of the Japanese Alps, Toyama City has been working to create a supportive structure and community for glassmaking throughout the past three decades. The **Toyama Institute of Glass Art** was founded in 1991 to provide a centre of education for aspiring artists and makers working with glass. Our goal is to create an environment, which fosters creativity while concurrently preparing students with the necessary knowledge and skills to pursue successful careers as artists and makers. We offer two unique two-year intensive programme and we annually teach forty students from all over Japan and the international community.

toyamaglass.ac.jp

Museum of Arts and Design, New York

MAD champions contemporary makers across creative fields, presenting artists, designers, and artisans who apply the highest level of ingenuity and skill to their work. Since the Museum's founding in 1956 by philanthropist and visionary Aileen Osborn Webb, MAD has celebrated all facets of making and the creative processes by which materials are transformed, from traditional techniques to cutting-edge technologies. Today, the Museum's curatorial program builds upon a rich history of exhibitions that emphasize a cross-disciplinary approach to art and design, and reveals the workmanship behind the objects and environments that shape our everyday lives. MAD provides an international platform for practitioners who are influencing the direction of cultural production and driving 21st-century innovation, fostering a participatory setting for visitors to have direct encounters with skilled making and compelling works of art and design.

madmuseum.org

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