

## PRESS RELEASE: August 2021

# The Glass Sellers & Contemporary Glass Society GLASS PRIZE and NEW GRADUATE REVIEW 2021.

The Contemporary Glass Society is delighted to announce both the winners of the **Glass Sellers/CGS 2021 Glass Prize** and the graduates to be included in the **New Graduate Review, 2021**.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Erica Poyser, De Montfort University. Leicester -BA

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Dr Helen Slater Stokes, Royal College of Art, London- PhD

Runner Up – Sacha Delabre. University of Sunderland -BA

Runner Up – Stephanie Harper, University For The Creative Arts, Farnham – MA

Highly Commended – Wai Yan Choi. Royal College of Art, London -MA

Highly Commended – Belinda King. De Montfort University. Leicester -BA

Highly Commended – Pratibha Mistry, University For The Creative Arts, Farnham - MA

Highly Commended – Rosie Perrett, De Montfort University. Leicester -BA

Highly Commended – Moon Ju Suh. Edinburgh College of Art -MFA

Commended – Kate Courtney- Taylor, University For The Creative Arts, Farnham - BA

Commended – Catherine Dunstan, University For The Creative Arts, Farnham - MA

Commended – Shona Escombe, City of Glasgow College - HNC

Commended – Steven Graham, University of Stirling - BA

Commended – Ossin Hanrahan, Crawford College of Art and Design, Ireland - BA

Commended – Chengyu Li, Royal College of Art, London -MA

Commended – Ethel Moir, Crawford College of Art and Design, Ireland - BA.

Commended – Tamar ' Nikki' Palmer, University of Wolverhampton -BA

Commended – Áine Ryan, Crawford College of Art and Design, Ireland - BA.

Commended – Bethany Walker, Royal College of Art, London -MA

Commended – Samantha Wuidart, De Montfort University. Leicester -BA

Because of the pandemic, CGS was unable to hold a Prize last year or produce the New Graduate Review, so we are delighted this year to include both 2020 and 2021 graduates.

It has been an unimaginably difficult time for students graduating over the past 18 months. Despite this we had 38 excellent applications from Graduates from 13 different Colleges spanning 2020 and 2021. The quality was really impressive especially considering the tough time students have all experienced and the Judging panel had such a hard task selecting four winners for the prizes plus another 16 graduates for the Review.

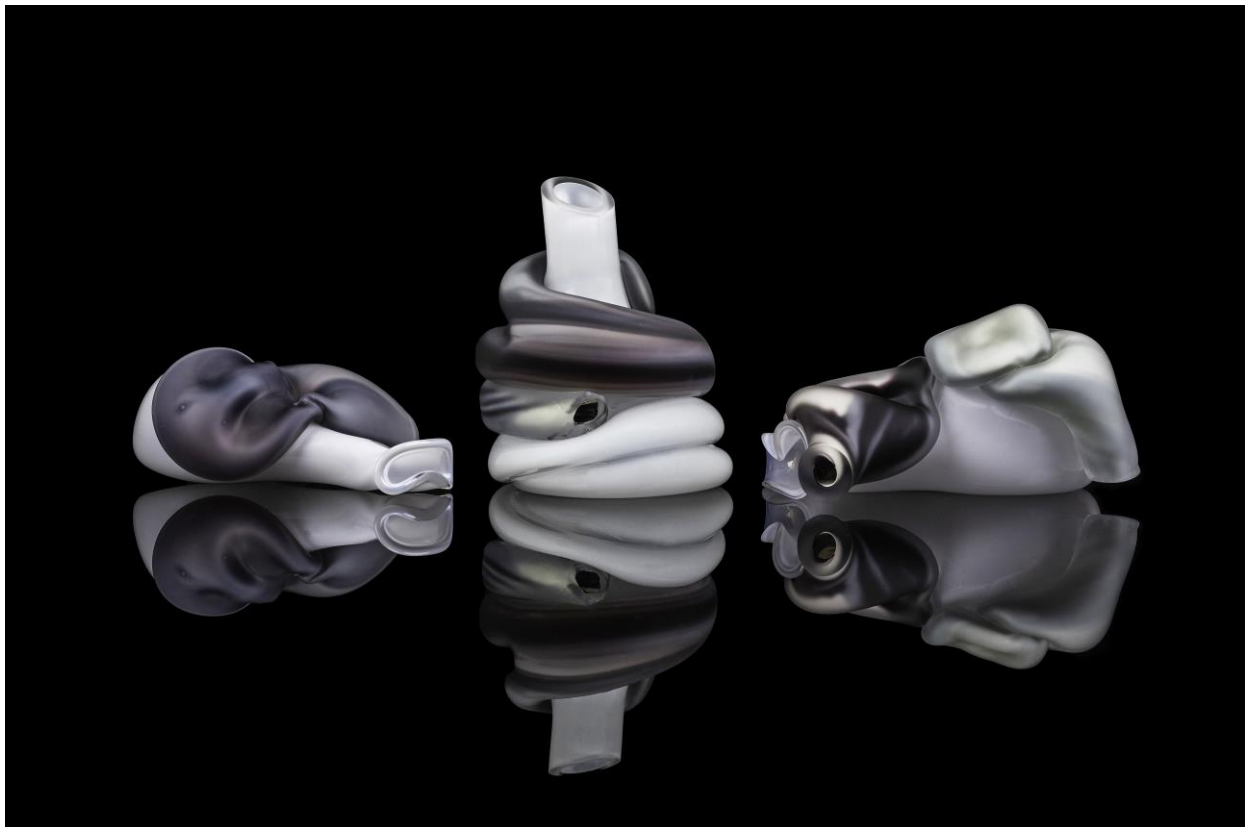
The winner, Erica Poyser, reacted by stating;

"Wow this is crazy! THANK YOU! I am so excited and honoured to have won this prize! There were so many amazing glass graduates this year and they have all created such amazing work in the extra challenging circumstances.

I am so proud of the work I have been able to accomplish this year. I couldn't have done it without the incredible help of my glass partner Rosie Perrett and my incredible teacher Jill Ellinsworth! Thank you again for this prize! It's such an amazing way to end my 3 years of University!"

Part of her winning application for the prize was Erica's passionate explanation of her work which struck a chord with the Judges;  
*"The process of glass blowing and its endless creative capabilities are an addiction to anyone who is lucky enough to have a go. I found my passion for glassblowing through my Design Crafts degree, and I am working hard to learn as much as I can about the art. I want to pursue a career in glass making and keep expanding my knowledge of the material.*

*A 2020 UK summer survey, reported by Young Minds, resulted in 80% of respondents agreeing that the Coronavirus pandemic made their mental health worse. My collection of glass pieces represents the overwhelming emotions many have tackled alone over the past year. Hopefully representing those emotions in a physical form can bring a cathartic feeling as people can relate my art to their own emotions from the past year."* Erica Poyser



The Judges were honoured to be able to provide support for Graduates who over the last couple of years have completed their degrees in unimaginably difficult circumstances.

*"The WCGSCF is delighted to be associated with the CGS Graduate award which we hope will help to encourage another new generation of studio glass artisans"* **Leigh Baildham** ( Chairman of Trustees - Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London Charity Fund )

*It was a pleasure to once again judge this year's prize. Considering this was such an awful year in many ways it was great to see so many entrants and such high quality. As ever, we struggled to give the prizes with so many good pieces to choose from. However, a winner emerged and several really high-quality runners up and Highly Commended and Commended. Well done to*

everyone and I really hope that the prize will help some excellent artists become established in the glass world. **Professor Michael Barnes MD FRCP** (CGS Board member and sponsor of the Prize)

The selection panel comprised of Angela Jarman - artist, Michael Barnes - glass collector/ CGS Trustee, Sarah L. Brown - glass artist/ CGS Trustee and Leigh Baildham from the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London Charity Fund. The judges had a long and arduous task in selecting the 4 Winners; 5 Highly Commended, and the 11 Commended graduates to be included in the Review.

The CGS '**New Graduate Review 2021**' is a 16 page publication, which will be circulated to all CGS. Members & Associates, plus through 'Neues Glas - New Glass: Art & Architecture.' Magazine.

This publication will give CGS an opportunity to showcase work from the talented **Prize Winners** plus work from several more emerging British graduates. It is vital to promote all glass education courses as more and more creative courses are threatened with closure.

We are extremely grateful to all our sponsors who provided financial support and Prizes for the **Glass Prize** and the '**New Graduate Review**' 2021, without whom this would not have been possible; Professor Michael Barnes MD FRCP, The Worshipful Company Of Glass Sellers Of London Charity Fund, Creative Glass UK, Pearsons Glass, Warm Glass, Neues Glas - New Glass: Art & Architecture and Alan J. Poole.

**End**

**Notes to Editors:**

For high resolution Images and information contact Pam Reekie, Email: [admin@cgs.org.uk](mailto:admin@cgs.org.uk)

All British and Irish students graduating from an accredited course in 2018 were eligible to enter.

**The First Prize includes:**

*£500 in cash,*

*£200 Creative Glass UK vouchers,*

*Cover of the Graduate Review & two feature pages inside,*

*Two years' C.G.S. Membership,*

*Alan J. Poole will provide a selection of glass related books, including 'A Passion For Glass',*

*A free subscription to Neues Glas.*

**Second Prize**

£150 cash

£100 voucher from Warm Glass, A Year's Subscription to Neues Glas - New Glass: Art & Architecture magazine and one year's membership of CGS

**Two Runners Up both receive:**

*£50 vouchers from Pearsons Glass,*

*A year's Membership to C.G.S.,*

*A free subscription to Neues Glas & Crafts magazines.*

C.G.S. received a total of 38 applications from thirteen colleges/universities, including City Of Glasgow College, Crawford College Of Art & Design in Cork, Institute Of Technology at De Montfort University in Leicester, Edinburgh College Of Art - The University Of Edinburgh, Kensington & Chelsea College, London, Manchester Metropolitan University, Plymouth College of Art, Royal College Of Art, London, University Centre in Hastings, East Sussex College, Hastings, University for the Creative Arts at Farnham, University Of Sunderland and University of Wolverhampton.

**The Contemporary Glass Society (CGS)** is widely regarded as the foremost organisation in the UK for promoting, supporting and encouraging cutting edge contemporary glass and glass-makers within the wider art world. Website: [www.cgs.org.uk](http://www.cgs.org.uk)

### **The Winner:**



Constricted, Erica Poyser, Photo: Matt Stone, Matt Evans

### **Second Prize**



Oculus – Dr Helen Slater Stokes, Photo; Ester Segarra

**Runner Up:**



Time to go, Sacha Delabre, Photo Michael Goncalves

**Runner Up**



As Above, Stephanie Harper, photo artist

**The Prize & Review were sponsored by**

**Pro. Michael Barnes MD FRCP**

**Alan J Poole**

**And**

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