



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***“Il Percorso Di Vetro, The Glass Path”***  
**GAS chooses Murano for Annual Conference**

***The annual conference will bring together the international glass community and will be held on the famous Venetian island from May 16-19, 2018. A rich, revolutionary schedule is lined up for four culture-packed days.***

**Murano, February 2018** - The Glass Art Society, also known by its acronym GAS, has chosen Murano as the next location for its major annual conference.

Now in its 47th year, the Glass Art Conference will bring together some 1500 attendees from all over the world for a unique experience on the island of Murano. Artists, teachers, students, collectors, gallery and museum curators, art critics, producers, and anybody interested and involved in glass production, technology and aesthetics will have the opportunity to meet, network, explore and discuss the world of glass, deepening understanding of both past and future.

It is the first time that Murano has hosted an international event of this scale in the very field that it is most well-known for: glass working. In fact, the knowledge and experience that has been passed down through the centuries means that, even today, Murano is still recognized as the birthplace of this precious art.

An official committee has been set up in Murano to ensure that the island is fully primed to welcome its visitors. Cesare Toffolo, Lucio Bubacco, Davide Salvatore, Marina Tagliapietra, Adriano Berengo, the Consorzio Promovetro Murano and honorary chairman Lino Tagliapietra instantly appreciated the importance of opening up a dialogue with the international glass community. “Alchemy, knowledge, dedication and mastery were and still are the most important ingredients for creating the magic of glass. We hope that this will be the first in a series of wide-ranging events in Murano relating to the tradition of glass and how it spread around the globe, with a view to creating value and sharing expertise. We believe that making the right choices, such as associating ourselves with well-known events like the GAS conference, will boost the island’s economy, highlight the value of its glass production and introduce new opportunities for future development.”

“We chose Murano as the setting for our annual conference because of its iconic location which has strongly shaped the history of glass. The public’s enthusiasm confirmed that we made the right choice. Their enthusiasm is no doubt also down to the program that we have arranged with the committee, which will offer a look at every way of working with glass, from historic methods to the most contemporary, innovative ones. If I had to choose a highlight I would struggle, simply because each event will be special in its own way,” said Natali Rodrigues, President of GAS.

The epicenter of the event will be the historic area around the church of San Pietro Martire, where attendees will gather, network, share their experiences and watch demonstrations by local, European and international

artists on the main stage. Meanwhile, an intense, revolutionary program of pre-bookable events will be taking place all over the island. Conference attendees will be able to explore the island's history and its art on tours put on especially for the event, with exclusive access to venues that are ordinarily off-limits to the public.

A selection of large and small glass-making brands and workshops - which to this day make Murano an ambassador for glass both in Italy and around the world - will be hosting lectures, workshops and demonstrations. There will also be guided tours of some of Murano's most famous artists' studios. In addition to this, the conference offers a fantastic networking opportunity, not just for established professionals, but also for emerging artists, who will have the chance to meet and learn from the best. As such, the Scuola Abate Zanetti will be exhibiting a selection of their projects.

The conference and panel discussions will cover a vast range of topics, from glass-making techniques to the history and the future of glass in general.

A short list of influential artists and venues who are participating includes:

ALBERTINI E SPEZZAMONTE	MARINA e SUSANNA SENT
BALBI ART GLASS	MATTEO SEGUSO
BAROVIER & TOSO SRL	MINISTERO DELLA CULTURA
BERENGO STUDIO 1989 SRL	MUSEO DEL VETRO MURANO
BUBACCO LUCIO	NASONMORETTI SRL
CAMOZZO LUIGI	ONGARO E FUGA
CARLO MORETTI SRL	PANIZZI EUGENIO SNC
CESARE TOFFOLO	PARROCCHIA SAN PIETRO MARTIRE
COMUNE DI VENEZIA	PIETRO E RICCARDO FERRO
CONSORZIO PROMOVETRO	REGIONE VENETO
DARIO FRARE	SALIR
DF GLASS WORKS FUIN DAVIDE	SALVADORE DAVIDE
DINO ROSIN ARTE STUDIO SRL	SALVIATI SRL
EFFETRE MURANO SRL	SCUOLA ABATE ZANETTI
ERCOLE MORETTI SNC	LICEO ARTISTICO GUGGENHEIM
FABBRICA	SEGUSO LIVIO
FORNACE MIAN	SIMONE CENEDESE
LAMA(Laboratorio di Analisi dei Materiali Antichi)	UNIVERSITÀ IUAV DIVENEZIA
LINO TAGLIAPIETRA SRL	VENINI SPA
MAF SRL EX CHIESA SANTA CHIARA	

**For more information, go to [www.glassart.org/2018murano.html](http://www.glassart.org/2018murano.html)**

If you are in need of photos or additional materials,  
please contact Tess McShane at 001 206.382.1305 Ext. 102 or [tess@glassart.org](mailto:tess@glassart.org)

Italy contact: [gas2018murano@gmail.com](mailto:gas2018murano@gmail.com)

*The mission of the Glass Art Society is to encourage excellence, advance education, promote the appreciation and development of glass arts, and to support the worldwide community of artists working with glass.*