

## KAREN LAMONTE

Since 1990, Karen LaMonte has created sublime and enigmatic works in glass, ceramic, bronze, iron, paper, and marble. Her works range from monotype prints to monumental stone sculptures, and explore themes of beauty, gender, identity, and the natural world.

LaMonte received her BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and explored an early passion for glass sculpture at studios in New York and New Jersey. In 1999, she traveled to Prague on a Fulbright scholarship to work in the glass casting studios of Eastern Bohemia; while there, she created *Vestige* (2000), a glass sculpture depicting a life-sized dress with the wearer absent. This work garnered international acclaim, thanks in part to an essay about it by renowned art critic Arthur Danto.

In the early 2000s, LaMonte established a permanent studio in Prague, where she created her first major body of work: the series *Absence Adorned*. Like *Vestige*, these life-sized glass sculptures examine the interplay between public and private identities through garments that are opulently draped on invisible female figures; the works represent a re-invention of the traditional portrayal of the nude. Sculptures from *Absence Adorned* were first shown in a solo exhibition at the Czech Museum of Fine Arts in Prague, and have been widely exhibited since.

## AWARDS & HONORS

Corning Museum of Glass, Corning Incorporated Specialty Glass Residency, 2018

James Renwick Alliance, Master of the Medium Award, 2015

Smithsonian Archives of American Art, Oral history interview, 2012

Corning Museum of Glass/Kohler Arts Center, Joint Artist-in-Residence Program, 2009

Jutta Cuny Franz Memorial Award, Laureate, 2007

Museum of Glass, Artist's Residency, 2007

Japan-United States Friendship Commission, NEA, Creative Artists Exchange Fellowship Program, 2006

The Virginia A. Groot Foundation, Recognition Award, 2005 UrbanGlass Award for New Talent in Glass, 2002

Creative Glass Center of America, Fellowship, 2002 & 1991

The Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation, Biennial Award, 2001

Fulbright Fellowship, Cast Glass Sculpture in the Czech Republic, 1999-2000

## EXHIBITION LIST

### 2024

Saint Petersburg, Florida | Imagine Museum | *Floating World*

### 2023

Washington DC | Hillwood Museum | *Glass: Art Beauty Design.*

Cahors, France | Musée Henri-Martin | *La Tenue d'Eve (Eve's Dress)*

Sopot, Poland | The State Museum | *Glasstress: Unveiled Realities*

### 2022

Washington, DC. | Smithsonian American Art Museum | *Renwick Gallery | This Present Moment*

Asheville, North Carolina | Asheville Art Museum | *Intersections in American Art*

Knoxville, Tennessee | Knoxville Museum of Art | *Currents: Women Artists from the KMA Collection*

Murano, Italy | Fondazione Berengo Art Space | *Glasstress: State of Mind*

Stockholm, Sweden | Millesgården Museum | *Glasstress Millesgården*

### 2021

Saint Petersburg, Russia | Hermitage State Museum | *Glasstress Window to the Future*

Norfolk, Virginia | Barry Art Museum | *Théâtre de la Mode*

Louisville, Kentucky | Speed Art Museum | *Collecting—A Love Story*

Norfolk, Virginia | Chrysler Museum of Art | *Clear as Crystal*

Racine, Wisconsin | Racine Art Museum | *Playful/Pensive: Contemporary Artists & Issues*

### 2020

Ames, Iowa | Brunnier Art Museum | *Contemplate Japan*

Jacksonville, Florida | MOCA | *Romancing the Mirror*

Pietrasanta, Italy | Art District | *Reality Bites. Art Produces Reality*

Murano, Italy | Fondazione Berengo | *Unbreakable*

### 2019

Venice, Italy | Fondazione Berengo at the 58th Biennale di Arte | *Glasstress*

St. Petersburg, Florida | Imagine Museum of Art | *Floating World*

Washington DC | Smithsonian American Art Museum, Renwick Gallery | *Connections*

### 2018

Lommel, Belgium | GlazenHuis | *Tactile*

Chattanooga, Tennessee | Hunter Museum of American Art | *Embodied Beauty*

Prague, Czech Republic | Kampa Museum | *Clothed in Light*

### 2017

Madison, Wisconsin | Chazen Museum of Art | *Floating World*

Venice, Italy | Fondazione Berengo at the 57th Biennale di Arte | *Glasstress*

Saginaw, Michigan | Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum | *Floating World*  
Venice, Italy | Palazzo Franchetti Fondazione Berengo at the 57th Biennale di Arte | *Glasstress*  
Tucson, Arizona | Tucson Museum of Art | *Dress Matters: Clothing as Metaphor*

## **2016**

Munich, Germany | Alexander Tutsek Foundation for Arts & Science | *Life is Not a Beach*  
Washington DC | Smithsonian American Art Museum, Renwick Gallery | *Connections: Contemporary Craft*  
Pilsen, Czech Republic | West Bohemia Museum | *Floating World*  
Toyama, Japan | Toyama Glass Art Museum | Inaugural Exhibition

## **2015**

Pilsen, Czech Republic | West Bohemia Museum | *Floating World*  
Toyama, Japan | Toyama Glass Art Museum | *Inaugural Exhibition*  
Chicago, Illinois | *Nocturnes*

## **2011**

Santa Fe, New Mexico | New Mexico Museum of Art | *Kimono and Prints of the Floating World*

## **2010**

Sars-Poteries, France | Musée du Verre | *Réflexions Féminines*

## **2009**

Norfolk, Virginia | Chrysler Museum of Art | *Contemporary Glass Among the Classics*

## **2008**

Düsseldorf, Germany | Glasmuseum Hentrich, Museum Kunst Palast | *Karen LaMonte Sculptures*  
Santa Fe, New Mexico | New Mexico Museum of Art | *Flux: Reflections on Contemporary Glass*

## **2006**

Munich, Germany | Alexander Tutsek Foundation for Arts and Science | *The Face of Lost and Found Again*

## **2005**

Wilmington, Delaware | Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts | *The Dress Makes the Woman*  
Tacoma, Washington | Museum of Glass International Center for Contemporary Art | *Absence Adorned*

## **2004**

Prague, Czech Republic | Czech Museum of Fine Art | *Vanitas*

## **2003**

Camerino, Italy | Camerino Municipal Salon | *Stanze di Vetro*  
Offenbach, Germany | Klingspor-Museum | *Corporal Identity-Body Language*  
Frankfurt, Germany | Museum für Angewandte Kunst | *Corporal Identity-Body Language*  
New York, NY | Museum of Art and Design | *Corporal Identity-Body Language*

## **2002**

Venice, Italy | Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation | *Stanze di Vetro*

## MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

Alexander Tutsek Foundation | Munich, Germany.

Alturas Foundation | San Antonio, Texas

Barry Art Museum | Old Dominion University | Norfolk, Virginia

Boston Museum of Fine Art | Boston, Massachusetts

Chazen Museum of Art | Madison, Wisconsin

Chrysler Museum of Art | Norfolk, Virginia

Cincinnati Art Museum | Cincinnati, Ohio

The Corning Museum of Glass | Corning, New York

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art | Bentonville, Arkansas

de Young Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco | San Francisco, California

Flint Institute of Arts | Flint, Michigan

Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park | Grand Rapids, Michigan

The Henry Ford Museum | Dearborn, Michigan

Hunter Museum of American Art | Chattanooga, Tennessee

Imagine Museum | St. Petersburg, Florida

Iowa State University Museum | Ames, Iowa

Jordan Schnitzer Foundation | Portland, Oregon

Museum Kunstpalast | Düsseldorf, Germany

Knoxville Museum of Art | Knoxville, Tennessee

Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami | Miami, Florida

Montgomery Museum of Art | Montgomery, Alabama

Musée des Arts décoratifs | Paris, France

Musée du Verre | Sars-Poteries, France

Museum Kunstpalast | Düsseldorf, Germany

Museum of American Glass | Millville, New Jersey

Museum of Glass | Tacoma, Washington

National Gallery of Australia | Canberra

North Carolina Museum of Art | Raleigh, North Carolina

Oklahoma City Museum of Art | Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Palm Springs Art Museum | Palm Springs, California

Palmer Museum of Art | University Park, Pennsylvania

Peabody Essex Museum | Salem, Massachusetts

Racine Museum of Art | Racine, Wisconsin

Ringling Museum of Art | Sarasota, Florida

Seven Bridges Foundation | Greenwich, Connecticut

Smithsonian Museum of American Art, Renwick Gallery | Washington DC

Speed Art Museum | Louisville, Kentucky

Spencer Museum of Art | Lawrence, Kansas

Toledo Museum of Art | Toledo, Ohio

Tucson Museum of Art | Tucson, Arizona

Vero Beach Museum of Art | Vero Beach, Florida