

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IL VETRO VENEZIANO: CONTEMPORARY VENETIAN GLASS
June 1 – September 7, 2008

A colorful display of one of Italy's greatest artistic contributions—Venetian glass design. Drawn from the collection of Toronto-based gallerist Roberto Navarro, this exhibit showcases seminal glass works of the 1920s to 1970s. From Art Deco's geometric influence to “bubbled” organic forms; from vibrant colors intermingled in one work to delicate monochromatic tones—this exhibit celebrates one of the most exciting periods in the history of Italian art history. *Il Vetro Veneziano* features the greatest names of modern glass-making, whose works are now avidly sought-after by collectors worldwide: Ercole Barovier, Fulvio Bianconi, Dino Martens, Napoleone Martinuzzi Gio Ponti, Carlo Scarpa, Paolo Venini, and Vittorio Zecchin. *Il Vetro Veneziano* is proudly presented in collaboration with the Istituto Italiano di Cultura of Los Angeles.

An active and vibrant artistic tradition that dates back to the 10th century, Italian glass-making was born in the factories located on the cluster of islands in the Venetian lagoon known as Murano. The factories of Murano gave rise to a lineage of artisans who developed an unsurpassed expertise at moulding molten glass and to the creation of unique color varietals found nowhere else, a trade secret that remains closely guarded to this day. Drawing from this rich tradition, the works in this exhibit represents the modern-day golden age of glass-making—1920 to 1970—during which experiments in color, design, and form flourished.

***** Images available upon request *****

OPENING RECEPTION
Saturday, May 31, 2008
6pm – 8pm at the Craft and Folk Art Museum

EXHIBIT LECTURE:
***50 Years of Venetian Glass* by Rosa Barovier**
Sunday, June 1, 2008
3pm at the Craft and Folk Art Museum

Internationally-renowned glass expert Rosa Barovier, a descendant of one of the oldest glassmaking families of Murano, speaks on the rich history and innovation of Venetian glass.

About the Istituto Italiano di Cultura of Los Angeles

The Italian Cultural Institute in Los Angeles, directed by Francesca Valente, is one of five government cultural agencies established in the United States by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Founded in 1984, the Institute acts as a cultural intermediary between Italy and the US, in a multifaceted perspective. The IIC is a center for cultural and academic activities, a school of Italian language and culture, and a host for art exhibitions, film screenings, and videos. It promotes the translation of Italian authors by encouraging local publishers and makes the public aware of Italian artists, as well as literary contests and awards.



About The Craft and Folk Art Museum

CAFAM was founded nearly 40 years ago by the high priestess of folk art, Edith Wyle, who made it her mission to celebrate cultural and intellectual diversity in her native Los Angeles. Today, the museum continues her mission by serving as a cultural bridge to champion cultural understanding and encourage curiosity of our world through the presentation of folk art and contemporary craft. As a non-collecting institution, CAFAM offers a dynamic mix of eclectic exhibitions that bestow a fresh, contemporary view of folk art and craft and lead patrons on a path of discovery. CAFAM programs demonstrate that by exploring art, universal truths are revealed and community is strengthened.

Craft and Folk Art Museum

5814 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90036

Information

Tel. 323-937-4230

www.cafam.org

Museum Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 11 am – 5 pm

Thursday 11 am – 7 pm

Saturday and Sunday 12 – 6 pm

Museum Admission

General \$5.00 / Students and Seniors 3.00

Members and Children under 12 Free / Free 1st Wednesday of month


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IMAGE LIST

PHOTO CREDIT: All images courtesy of Roberto Navarro

	<p>(image1) Carlo Scarpa Vase, 1930s Made for Venini & Company</p>
	<p>(image2) Dino Martens and Aureliano Toso Dish, 1950s Made for Vetreria Aureliano Toso</p>
	<p>(image3) Fulvio Bianconi Vase, 1050s Made for Venini & Company</p>
	<p>(image4) Carlo Scarpa Vase, 1928 Made for M.V.M. Cappellin & Company</p>
	<p>(image5) Napoleone Martinuzzi Vase, 1930 Made for Venini & Company</p>
	<p>(image6) Ercole Barovier Vase, 1956 Made for Barovier & Toso</p>