



hosts

Heller

## HELLER hosts Heller during NYCxDesign

Heller Gallery, 303 Tenth Avenue

Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 10 am-6 pm

Monday, May 22 & Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 11 am – 6 pm



Photo courtesy Heller Furniture.

**NEW YORK**—Heller Gallery, New York’s leading gallery specializing in contemporary glass sculpture and design, will host Heller, international manufacturer of modern furniture, presenting “The Next Generation of Modern,” an interactive exhibition curated and designed by Rodolfo Agrella, founder of Agrella Design Studio. On view May 21-23, 2023, during NYCxDesign, the pop-up exhibition represents the international launch and debut of new designs by Atlason Studio, Pagnotta and Massimo & Lella Vignelli, as well as the relaunch of favorites from William Sawaya and Mario & Claudio Bellini.

In the front of the 2300 sq ft gallery space, Agrella will place individual pieces on the floor in a series of mirrored enclosures that will form individual infinity rooms, each piece occupying its own world. “These infinity pockets allow the visitors to experience the product with an exciting duality: the intimacy of interacting with the object one-on-one, while surrounded by unlimited reflections of itself, a wink to the mass-production spirit of Heller, the future life of the product pipeline, and —why not—a super-cool selfie spot,” says Agrella. “We conceived an experience for everyone who celebrates the wonderful intersection between functional design, long-lasting beauty, and art.”

“We’re thrilled to host Heller Furniture during New York Design Week,” says Douglas Heller, co-owner and director of Heller Gallery. “I was first introduced to the Heller brand more than 50 years ago as a young man working at D/R, the iconic Design Research store that sold Massimo Vignelli’s Heller dinnerware. So, I have always admired the brand’s aesthetic and philosophy.”

In the back half of the gallery, running concurrently with *The Next Generation of Modern* presentation, Heller Gallery will be featuring two curated collections by three of the glass world’s most venerated talents: the great Italian Maestro, octogenarian **Lino Tagliapietra** and the incomparable team of Czech husband and wife, **Stanislav Libenský & Jaroslava Brychtová**.

Tagliapietra, often referred to as the world’s greatest glassblower, and the Libenskýs who created the defining abstract sculptures in cast glass in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, have all inspired generations of artists, and epitomize what can be achieved with this wonderful alchemic medium.

During New York Design Week nine significant Libenský & Brychtová sculptures made between 1963 and Professor Libenský’s death in 2002 will be on view, along with a selection of archival blown glass works representing two decades of Tagliapietra’s practice.



Left: LIBENSKÝ & BRYCHTOVÁ, *WINGED HEAD I*, 1962, cast glass/metal stand. Right: LINO TAGLIAPIETRA *UNTITLED*, 2004, glass. Courtesy Heller Gallery.

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### **About Heller**

Heller began in 1971 and from the outset has been known for the true meaning of modern. Their timeless, functional designs are created without ego by some of the world’s greatest architects and designers - Frank Gehry, Massimo & Lela Vignelli, and Mario Bellini to name a few. Heller products have claimed the distinction of international design awards from the Compasso d’Oro to NeoCon and are featured in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art and recently, to the permanent collection at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Heller continues to work with new technologies to create innovative products, explore new processes, and create a more sustainable, transparent manufacturing process for the future of design. Made in America, with a strong commitment to sustainability, Heller will take back any of its products (and even pay for shipping) at any time during its lifecycle. Perfect indoor and outdoor, Heller is found in homes, restaurants, museums and offices around the world. We are proud to be the first company to work with the Digby Design Authenticator, guaranteeing authenticity in our designs and sustainability of our products for the future.

**About Heller Gallery**

Heller Gallery, founded in 1973 in New York, provides a curated platform for studio artists whose practice incorporates glass and whose work with the material broadens the horizons of contemporary culture. The gallery identifies, nurtures and represents emerging artists as well as prominent international masters. Numerous artworks have entered preeminent public collections as a direct result of Heller Gallery's exhibitions and advocacy. New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art and Museum of Modern Art have acquired works from the gallery as has The Corning Museum of Glass, The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and numerous museums worldwide, including Victoria & Albert Museum, Musee des Arts Decoratifs de Louvre, and Hokkaido Museum, among others.

<http://www.hellergallery.com>