**Venice Glass Week features Captured Moments by glass artist Rhian Hâf**

**Captured Moments is an exhibition that presents subtle yet dramatic effects of light through glass. It is an exploration of how we interact with our surroundings and what we may or may not notice about our everyday environment.**

**Rhian Hâf**, an award-winning glass artist from North Wales, is presenting her widely admired work in Venice in Italy this September. Rhian’s exhibition *Captured Moments* is an installation of glass and light, including film, drawings and photographs. *Captured Moments* was selected by the jury of Venice Glass Week to be featured in this year’s programme. *Captured Moments* opens in Venice on Sunday 9 September and will be presented alongside other exhibitions, seminars, films and discussions about contemporary international glass design.

Rhian Hâf said, *“I am thrilled that I have been selected for Venice Glass Week and for my work to be shown alongside that of many international designers that I admire.”*

This is a prized platform at which to present work, as Venice Glass Week draws international attention to individual creative practitioners working with glass. The celebratory week is programmed during the esteemed Architecture Biennale in Venice, an event that attracts crowds of specialists from around the world.

*Captured Moments* will be shown in an historic, central venue in Venice, Campo San Stefano, near the foot of the Accademia Bridge, en route to San Marco Square. This is a phenomenal location in terms of being readily visited by tourist, local and professional audiences. A highly regarded local partner, Venice Art Factory, is supporting *Captured Moments*. This connection will introduce Rhian’s work to a new audience and facilitate further opportunities and openings.

Venice Art Factory’s Luca Berta said, *“We are delighted to be presenting Captured Moments in Venice, the work extends our appreciation of what is possible in contemporary glass design.”*

*Captured Moments* explores the effects of light and glass. Highly polished clear pieces of glass are mounted in bespoke viewing boxes and lit by LED lights at slight variances of angles. The light is refracted through the glass and the shadows are captured in the boxes; as distinct as drawing on a page. It is an installation that comprises twelve wall-mounted boxes presenting a series of twelve glass pieces. It also includes a film that explores light, original drawings and photographs.

The inspiration for *Captured Moments* is the shafts of light caught through narrow Venetian alleyways. Highly skilled in glass design, Rhian is intrigued by the possibility of harnessing these natural lighting effects through architectural design. Rhian has collaborated with industry to develop the work for the exhibition, working with hand-size pieces of glass in a tightly controlled environment. The potential to apply her findings to larger scale urban design however, is very exciting.

Rhian Hâf has received funding from Wales Arts International to support the realisation of her exhibition in Venice. She has also received sponsorship from Caerphilly based Specialist Precast Projects and support from both Ruthin Craft Centre and the Glass Department at University of Wales, Trinity Saint David.

For further information about Rhian's work go to [www.rhianhaf.com](http://www.rhianhaf.com/)

For further information about Captured Moments at Venice Glass Week go to <https://www.theveniceglassweek.com/listing/captured-moments-2/>

**ENDS**

For media information, including images and interviews, please contact Ceri Jones at Fieldwork ceri@fieldworking.co.uk / +44 7967 272049

**Notes for Editors**

The quotes below can be used regarding Rhian’s work:

*“Rhian has a particular aptitude for her material and the ability to capture both the ordinary and the extraordinary with some style. This is a rare and special talent”.*

Philip Hughes; Director, Ruthin Craft Centre

*“Rhian Hâf 's work entices you with the subtle beauty of light and shade. It forces you to really look and appreciate qualities of the built environment you could so easily miss”.* Angharad Pearce Jones; Artist

*“Artist Rhian Hâf talks about depicting silent, transient moments through her work. Such moments are rare and artists with the ability to capture them are rarer still”.*

Julia Stephenson; Head of Arts, National Glass Centre at the University of Sunderlandand Chair, Contemporary Glass Society

Rhian Hâf studied Design and Applied Arts at Edinburgh College of Art. Specialising in glass, she went on to get a Distinction in her Masters at Swansea Metropolitan University in 2011 and has spent the last seven years developing her practice and creating installations and sculptures in glass.

Venice Art Factory is the Venice based creative partner presenting Captured Moments as part of Venice Glass Week.

<https://www.veniceartfactory.org>

Venice Glass Week welcomed over 75,000 visitors last year. It is a platform for presenting selected international artists working in glass and runs during the Venice Architecture Biennale.

[http://www.theveniceglassweek.com](http://www.theveniceglassweek.com/tvgw/?lang=en)

<http://www.labiennale.org/en/architecture/2018>

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[www.wai.org.uk](http://www.wai.org.uk)

<http://www.specialistprecastproducts.co.uk>

<http://ruthincraftcentre.org.uk>

<https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/art-design/glass/>

Currently Rhian Hâf’s work features in *Art of Glass*, at the National Museum of Scotland. This is an exhibition exploring the work of leading of 15 UK leading and emerging glass artists in Britain today, running until 16 September 2018. *Art of Glass* will tour to The National Centre for Craft & Design, UK, in October 2018.

[https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/stories/art-and-design/glass-artists/artists/rhian-hâf/](https://www.nms.ac.uk/explore-our-collections/stories/art-and-design/glass-artists/artists/rhian-h%C3%A2f/)

*Captured Moments* was selected for New Glass Review 36 (published by the Corning Museum of Glass in New York State, USA).

In August 2015 Rhian Hâf won the Gold Medal for Craft and Design at the National Eisteddfod. Additionally, Rhian Hâf and Phoenix Optical Technologies Limited received the Arts, Business & Employees Award at the 2015 Arts & Business Awards.