



Glass Vegas 2019

by Amy Short

Glass Vegas's third annual event, which took place in February 2019, proved that this show is not just your normal glass tradeshow, and it's here to stay. The theme of the show was *More*—more artists, more glass, more buyers, more fun, and more love! Coordinating dates and working closely with the Tobacco Plus Expo brought in many new buyers and made it easy for them to do all of their shopping in one trip to Vegas.

Magical Festivities and Fabulous Demos

Opening night had a festive feeling with music by HIRIE and Marlon Asher, "The Ganja Farmer." Live painters added to the magic felt on stage, but don't think it was just a party. Many exhibitors reported selling out in those three hours! The vibe and ability to crush it doing business is one of the very things that makes Glass Vegas so special.

During the second day of the event, the stage was lit with live demos from legendary artists such as Eusheen, Julie Riggs, Ryno, Blossom, Piper Dan, and Mia Shea. The third day featured demos by Salt, LaceFace, Doc, Snic, and Emily Marie. The talent of these artists was flowing off the stage, building excitement from demo to demo, as these spectacular creations were taking shape while buyers stocked their shelves with the newest and greatest glass and products around.



(Clockwise from top right) Eusheen Goines demo piece; glass art by Robert Mickelsen; Julie Riggs during her on-stage demo; Julie's finished demo piece. Glass art photos by Doug Baldwin. Demo photo by Alexis Joy.





(Clockwise from top) Glass Vegas Team and Smoke Shop of the Year Winners, Smitty's & POM OC (left to right); RYNO's demo piece; glass art by Shuhbuh. Group photo by Hew Burney. Glass art photos by Doug Baldwin.



Boro Cars and a Fantastic Party

The Boro Derby has become a mainstay with Glass Vegas and is not to be missed, with top artists racing their meticulously crafted boro cars for charity to benefit the Evergreen State Project. This revolutionary event travels around to different cities in the United States to qualify the fastest racing boro cars while bringing clout to the artists. The finals are held at Glass Vegas, where the winner is determined. Special thanks to Handmade for bringing the derby to the desert, since that is quite the addition to our show.

The Millie Meet Up, which was brought to attendees by Dopals Opals, was the party of all parties held in a 13,000-square-foot Villa at the top of the Westgate Hotel. Hundreds of people were lining up just to have their chance to get into this epic palace! Mille masters came from all over to share their creations and jam to Marlon Asher while he did a private set in this extraordinary suite. Everyone came together to share an experience that will last a lifetime.

Marbles, Music, and a Charity Auction

This year we had a marvelous winning marble made by John Bridges of Black Fire Glass and won by Danny B. Glass for the Marble Exchange. Danny also won a 6 x 6 booth and hotel room for our 2020 show.

The Glass Orchestra, which was our newest addition, was a live band comprised of some very talented musicians. They played on the most beautiful glass guitars and a glass violin that were made by Nick Eggert of Glassical Creations. This was a killer ensemble that brought music and glass together and provided awesome entertainment to the show floor.

JD Maplesden was one of the recipients from our 2018 charity silent auction, the Injured Artist Fund. He personally spearheaded donations that raised over \$15,000 for artists who have suffered an injury or major loss. We are honored to continue to grow this fund for artists in need. The Injured Artist Fund runs solely on donations, so don't forget to donate a piece for the next show!



(Top to bottom) Glass art collab by Robertson Glass and Hoobs Glass; attendees at the Mille Meetup party; collab demo piece by LaceFace and SALT. Event photo by MG Professional. Glass art photos by Doug Baldwin.



Closing Events

Artists competed in the World Series of Glass for over \$25,000 in cash and prizes by bringing their finished pieces to display. To close out the show, we also announced the winner of the coveted competition for Smoke Shop of the Year 2019. We will be taking winners from the World Series of Glass on an epic journey to Piece of Mind OC and create a special event that will bring endless marketing and new business to the shop. The ripples of positivity will continuously flow for many years to come. Follow along on our crazy adventure at Blown.Vegas.

Glass Vegas is a show that is driven by the passion, success, spirit, and energy of the entire glass culture. We thrive off of each and every one of the beautiful individuals in this tight-knit community and strive to embody that essence into the soul of the show. We invite you, along with the rest of the Glass Vegas family, to join us in creating lifelong connections and memories that will forever enrich not only your business, but also your life.

Glass.Vegas

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