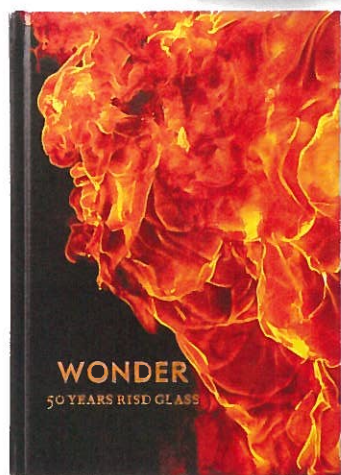


The Short List
With An Eye
To History



Wonder: 50 Years RISD Glass
Edited by Denise Markonish,
Rachel Berwick, and Jocelyne Prince
Rhode Island School of Design
and RISD Shortruns, \$40

THIS OCTOBER, RHODE ISLAND School of Design wraps up its yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of its glass department with the publication of *Wonder: 50 Years RISD Glass*. As editors Denise Markonish and Rachel Berwick explain, “wonder” aptly describes how RISD glass artists approach their chosen material. For them,

to work with glass is to experiment with awe. In the spirit of experimentation, the 225-page book is not a glossy “best of” retrospective. Instead, it’s an intriguing catalogue of the expanding potential of glass – in art as well as interior design, furniture, and architecture. Essays on five themes – “Wonder,” “Alchemy,” “Nature,” “Science,” and “Invisible/Unseen” – are each accompanied by three artists’ projects (including work created for the book); the “Science” essay by

Margaret Wertheim, for example, appears with the neon heart that artist Alex Rosenberg mounted in his apartment window, which – thanks to a sensor he wears – blinks through the night in time with his heartbeat. A conversation with Berwick, Prince, and writer Lawrence Weschler, and a section on the glass department’s history – with recollections from alums such as Dale Chihuly – round out this unique book, the pages of which are edged in the color of fire. ~ELLEN WELTY

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