



Press Release

## The Glass Museum delivers the 2008 Crystal Awards

- For the seventh consecutive year, it recognizes those persons who stand out for their extraordinary work in promoting art and culture.
- **Lucio Bubacco, Noemí Osuna de Páez, Germaine Gómez Haro and Diego Sada are this year's prize winners.**

**San Pedro Garza García, Nuevo León, México, June 24, 2008.** – For dedicating their lives to artistic excellence and culture, the Glass Museum awarded today the Crystal Prize (Premio Cristal) to Lucio Bubacco, Noemí Osuna de Páez, Germaine Gómez Haro and Diego Sada in an emotional ceremony that took place in the Vitro S.A.B. Corporate Offices.

The awards were given by José Natividad González Parás, Governor for the state of Nuevo León; Álvaro Hegewisch on behalf of Sergio Vela, President of the Mexican Council for Culture and Arts; and Fernando Margáin Berlanga, City Mayor for San Pedro Garza García.

“We are proud for the seventh consecutive year to pay homage to those who have shown a superior commitment in the promotion of arts and culture in our country and to those who have shown an extraordinary technical level in the artistic glass handling of this material”, expressed **Liliana Melo de Sada**, President of the Board for the Glass Museum and hostess for the event.

“I wish to congratulate the winners for their distinguished trajectory, as the significance of their work and splendid creativity has contributed to the enrichment of all of our souls; you are living proof of the significance of dedicating your whole life to extol human sensitivity”, commented Melo de Sada.

In the category of International Art in Glass the Italian Master **Lucio Bubacco**, born on the Venetian island of Murano in 1957, received an award for his extraordinary level in technique, talent and sensibility with the new generation of creative artists who work with glass, and has been an inspiration to craftsmen and artisans throughout the world.

“To receive the Crystal Prize is a great honor, since glass is not only a decorative element but in a detailed work of art offers a special narrative, both in form and content”, pointed out Bubacco, considered one of the first Italian artists who transitioned from a craftsman in glass to an artist in glass and is a pioneer in the creation of human figures in movement utilizing the flamed glass technique.

**Noemí Osuna de Páez** was recognized in the category of National Glass Artist for her outstanding career in the creation and promotion of glass art as well as her extraordinary

contribution in the area of teaching through which she has enriched the lives of countless generations.

“I am very gratified for receiving this award from an institution that I have supported from its beginnings and that has allowed me to develop my two greatest passions: art in glass and teaching”, affirms Osuna currently participating in various projects with the “Alberto Barovier” Glass Workshop, of the Glass Museum.

In the category of Cultural Promoter the event awarded **Germaine Gómez Haro**, who has been outstanding for her extraordinary efforts in promoting Mexican art through the cultural center “Casa Lamm”, as well as her valuable contribution in the investigation and spreading of plastic arts in Oaxaca.

“I’m thankful to the Glass Museum Board for this award which represents for me a great stimulus to continue to promote culture in Mexico in any of its many forms”, claimed the Promotion and Cultural Awareness Director for “Casa Lamm”.

**Diego Sada** received an award for his exceptional philanthropic work in promoting contemporary art.

“I’m honored to receive this award which I accept with a firm commitment to continue to work for art and culture whose direct benefit has a positive impact on our community” explained Sada, a founding member of the Monterrey Contemporary Art Museum.

Each of the prize winners received a commemorative trophy designed by Oscar Ramírez one of the winners of the First Biennial Glass Art Show organized by the Glass Museum in 2006.

The trophies, representing allusive elements of the Museum, are handcrafted in lead crystal by a team of experts from the **Vitro Collection Workshop** with more than 35 years experience of preserving the ancestral craftsmanship in this fascinating material.

Located in the heart of Vidriera Monterrey, Vitro’s first container factory, the Glass Museum seeks to preserve and share the history of glass, motivate artistic work in this material and promote culture in general.

Among its multiple activities are handcraft workshops, some of which are specifically designed to educate youngsters on the environmental and artistic advantages of working with glass.

Another outstanding activity is the Art in Glass Biennial which looks to promote the use of glass as an artistic element and stimulate creative activity. Additionally, it opens the door for a broader base of talents coming from all over Latin America as well as, in the convening of the 2008 second edition of the contest, it was extended to include Spain and Portugal.

Sponsored and funded by Vitro in 1992, **the Glass Museum forms part of its efforts in social responsibility** that the company carries out for the benefit of its personnel and the community in general.

Since its founding 100 years ago, Vitro has become the industry leader in México for its manufacture of internationally recognized quality glass products; value added services, its development of innovative technologies and an absolute focus on social responsibility.

Vitro is very proud to produce products that are 100% recyclable, that help to preserve the environment and offer the opportunity to leave a cleaner world to future generations.

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