



Marta Klonowska

Glass Menagerie - Solo Exhibition

REM - Reiss-Engelhorn Museum Mannheim

Saturday, 25 October 2025 - Sunday, 21 June 2026

Curated by Eva-Maria Günther



lorch+seidel contemporary

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DIE GLASMENAGERIE – SKULPTUREN VON MARTA KLONOWSKA

Nach der vorangegangenen Präsentation im CRP - Zentrum für Polnische Skulptur in Oronsco/Polen vom 15. Februar - 13. April 2025 wird die Einzelausstellung der Künstlerin Marta Klonowska mit dem Titel Glasmenagerie nun vom 25. Oktober 2025 bis 21. Juni 2026 im REM - Reiss-Engelhorn Museum in Mannheim (Peter & Traudl Engelhorn Haus) gezeigt.

Ausgestellt werden 12 Skulpturen, d. h. gläserne Tierfiguren nach Motiven aus der Kunstgeschichte und Reproduktionen der jeweiligen historischen Inspirationsquellen. Die Glastiere sind in natürlicher Größe oder in Einzelfällen auch größer ausgeführt. Entwurfs- u. Konstruktionszeichnungen (Kohle, Bleistift) sowie Bewegungs- u. Farbstudien (Aquarell) ergänzen die Exponate und illustrieren die Vorbereitungsphase.

Glasmenagerie war Marta Klonowskas erste Einzelausstellung in Polen und es ist ihre erste Museumsausstellung in Süddeutschland. Marta Klonowska ist in Warschau geboren und hat an den Kunstakademien in Breslau (1987-89) und Düsseldorf (1989-97) studiert. Sie war Meisterschülerin von Professor A. R. Penck.

Marta Klonowska findet die Motive für ihre Glas-Skulpturen in Gemälden und Zeichnungen alter Meister, wie z. B. des italienischen Malers des Spätmittelalters Giotto di Bondone (1267-1337), des japanischen Holzschnittkünstlers Utagawa Hiroshige (1797-1858) oder des Dresdner Malers der Romantik Johann Friedrich Wilhelm Wegener (1812-1879). In der von ihr selbst entwickelten künstlerischen Sprache und Technik überträgt Marta Klonowska deren zweidimensionale Darstellungen in Skulpturen aus unzähligen, scharfkantigen Glasplättchen und interpretiert sie dabei neu. Ihre Werke faszinieren und verlocken den Betrachter auf vielfältige Weise wie z. B. durch das Spiel mit dem Licht und das Schillern des Materials, die Lust zur Berührung bei gleichzeitiger Gefahr der Verletzung und durch die zugespitzte (oder überspitzte) Ästhetik. Jede Kreatur erzählt eine Geschichte, denn sie hatte ja bereits ein voriges Leben. Jede Kreatur repräsentiert eine Epoche der (Kunst-) Geschichte. Und jede Kreatur vermag eine Welt der Fantasie, der Märchen und Kindheitserinnerungen zu eröffnen.

„Ein Ziel der Ausstellung ist es, die Aufmerksamkeit auf die Strategie der Künstlerin zu lenken, die beim Besuch von Museen und Galerien mit alten Gemälden danach sucht, was in den Gemälden der alten Meister de facto parergonisch und marginal ist, d. h. Tiere, die Menschen begleiten oder in Landschaften dargestellt sind. Klonowska interessiert sich nicht für das Hauptmotiv, sondern für die Anwesenheit von Tieren, die die Komposition bereichern und oft auch eine symbolische Bedeutung haben. Die Künstlerin wählt tierische Motive aus und stellt sie mit ihrer Technik als dreidimensionale Objekte her. Auf diese Weise durchbricht sie die Flächigkeit der Malerei und begibt sich in den Bereich der Bildhauerei, arbeitet transmedial und greift dabei auch auf Fotografie und Zeichnung oder Aquarellstudien zurück. Auf diese Weise lenkt Klonowska unsere Aufmerksamkeit auf das, was wir in der Malerei oft übersehen, weil wir uns hauptsächlich auf das Leitmotiv einer bestimmten Leinwand konzentrieren. Mit posthumanistischer Sensibilität und Empathie rückt sie nicht-menschliche Akteure in den Mittelpunkt, zeigt uns die alte Kunst aus einer völlig neuen Perspektive und baut eine zeitliche Spannung zwischen den Gemälden der alten Meister und der zeitgenössischen Skulptur auf.“

Der Titel der Ausstellung, Glasmenagerie, ist eine Anspielung auf den Titel des berühmten Theaterstücks von Tennessee Williams, das 1945 am Broadway uraufgeführt wurde. Die Hauptfigur des Stücks, Laura, sammelte gläserne Tierfiguren, um sie in ihren einsamen Momenten zu begleiten. Auch Klonowskas kreativer Prozess selbst erfordert Einsamkeit, ja sogar meditative Konzentration und Arbeit in der Isolation - so entsteht die Glasmenagerie der Künstlerin.“

Marta Smolinska (Kuratorin der Ausstellung Glasmenagerie im CRP – Zentrum für Polnische Skulptur in Oronso/PL vom 15. Februar -13. April 2025)

DIE GLASMENAGERIE – SCULPTURES BY MARTA KLONOWSKA

Following the previous presentation at the CRP - Center for Polish Sculpture in Oronsco, Poland, from February 15 - April 13, 2025, the solo exhibition by artist Marta Klonowska entitled Glass Menagerie will now be on display from October 25, 2025, to June 21, 2026, at the REM - Reiss-Engelhorn Museum in Mannheim (Peter & Traudl Engelhorn Haus).

Approximately 12 sculptures will be on display, i.e., glass animal figures based on motifs from art history and reproductions of the respective historical sources of inspiration. The glass animals are life-size or, in some cases, larger. Design and construction drawings (charcoal, pencil) as well as movement and color studies (watercolor) complement the exhibits and illustrate the preparatory phase.

Glass Menagerie was Marta Klonowska's first solo exhibition in Poland and it is her first museum exhibition in southern Germany. Marta Klonowska was born in Warsaw and studied at the art academies in Wrocław (1987-89) and Düsseldorf (1989-97). She was a master student of Professor A. R. Penck.

Marta Klonowska finds the motifs for her glass sculptures in paintings and drawings by old masters, such as the late medieval Italian painter Giotto di Bondone (1267-1337), the Japanese woodblock artist Utagawa Hiroshige (1797-1858), and the Dresden Romantic painter Johann Friedrich Wilhelm Wegener (1812-1879). Using her own artistic language and technique, Marta Klonowska translates these two-dimensional representations into sculptures made of countless sharp-edged glass tiles, thereby reinterpreting them. Her works fascinate and entice the viewer in many ways, for example through the play of light and the iridescence of the material, the desire to touch them despite the risk of injury, and their pointed (or exaggerated) aesthetics. Each creature tells a story, for it already had a previous life. Each creature represents an epoch of (art) history. And each creature is capable of opening up a world of fantasy, fairy tales, and childhood memories.

“One of the aims of the exhibition is to draw attention to the artist's strategy of looking for what is de facto parergonic and marginal in the paintings of the old masters when visiting museums and galleries with old paintings, i.e. animals accompanying people or depicted in landscapes. Klonowska is not interested in the main motif, but in the presence of animals, which enrich the composition and often also have a symbolic meaning. The artist selects animal motifs and uses her technique to create them as three-dimensional objects. In this way, she breaks through the two-dimensionality of painting and enters the realm of sculpture, working trans-medially and also drawing on photography and drawing or watercolor studies. In this way, Klonowska draws our attention to what we often overlook in painting because we focus mainly on the leitmotif of a particular canvas. With post-humanist sensibility and empathy, she brings non-human actors into focus, showing us ancient art from a completely new perspective and building a temporal tension between the paintings of the old masters and contemporary sculpture.

The title of the exhibition, Glass Menagerie, is an allusion to the title of the famous play by Tennessee Williams, which premiered on Broadway in the year 1945. The main character of the play, Laura, collected glass animal figures to accompany her in her lonely moments. Klonowska's creative process itself also requires solitude, even meditative concentration and work in isolation - this is how the artist's glass menagerie comes into being.”

Marta Smolinska (curator of the exhibition Glass Menagerie at the CRP – Center for Polish Sculpture in Oronso, Poland, from February 15 to April 13, 2025)

01	Partridge after Józef Chełmoński 2025
02	Lady Walking Her Dog after François Louis Joseph Watteau 2025
03	Goat after Aert Schouman 2024
04	Snake after Albertus Seba 2023
05	Three Carp after Utagawa Hiroshige 2023
06	Carp after Utagawa Hiroshige 2022
07	King Charles Spaniel after Johann Friedrich Wegener 2019
08	Demon after Giotto di Bondone 2018
09	Venus and Adonis after Peter Paul Rubens 2008
10	The Temptation of Saint Anthony after Frans Francken the Younger 2008
11	Duke Henry the Pious of Saxony and His Wife Catherine of Mecklenburg after Lucas Cranach the Elder 2003
12	Baltasar Carlos as a Hunter after Diego Velazquez 2003
13	Design Sketches and Construction Drawings 2003 - 2025

MARTA KLONOWSKA

01

Partridge
after Józef Chełmoński

Ensemble of partridge sculpture and print
2025

Partridge sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 84 x 120 x 60 cm

Inkjet print on paper
Motif | H x W | 37 x 60 cm
Frame | H x W | 63 x 86 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

02

Lady Walking Her Dog
after François Louis Joseph Watteau

Ensemble of poodle sculpture and print
2025

Poodle sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 73 x 60 x 37 cm

Inkjet print on paper
Image | H x W | 37 x 26 cm
Frame | H x W | 57 x 46 cm

lorch+seidel contemporary | Berlin



MARTA KLONOWSKA

02

Lady Walking Her Dog
after François Louis Joseph Watteau

Ensemble of poodle sculpture and print
2025

Poodle sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 73 x 60 x 37 cm

lorch+seidel contemporary | Berlin



MARTA KLONOWSKA

03

Goat
after Aert Schouman

Ensemble of goat sculpture and print
2024

Goat sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 70 x 110 x 45 cm

Inkjet print on paper
Sheet | H x W | 55 x 51,5
Frame | H x W | 61 x 57,5 cm

lorch+seidel contemporary | Berlin



MARTA KLONOWSKA

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after Aert Schouman

Ensemble of goat sculpture and print
2024

Goat sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 70 x 110 x 45 cm

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Sheet | H x W | 55 x 51,5
Frame | H x W | 61 x 57,5 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

04

Snake
after Albertus Seba

Ensemble of snake sculpture and print
2023

Snake sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 90 x 150 x 100 cm

Inkjet print on paper | framed
Image | H x W | 48,5 x 63,5 cm
Sheet | H x W | 69,7 x 84,8 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

04

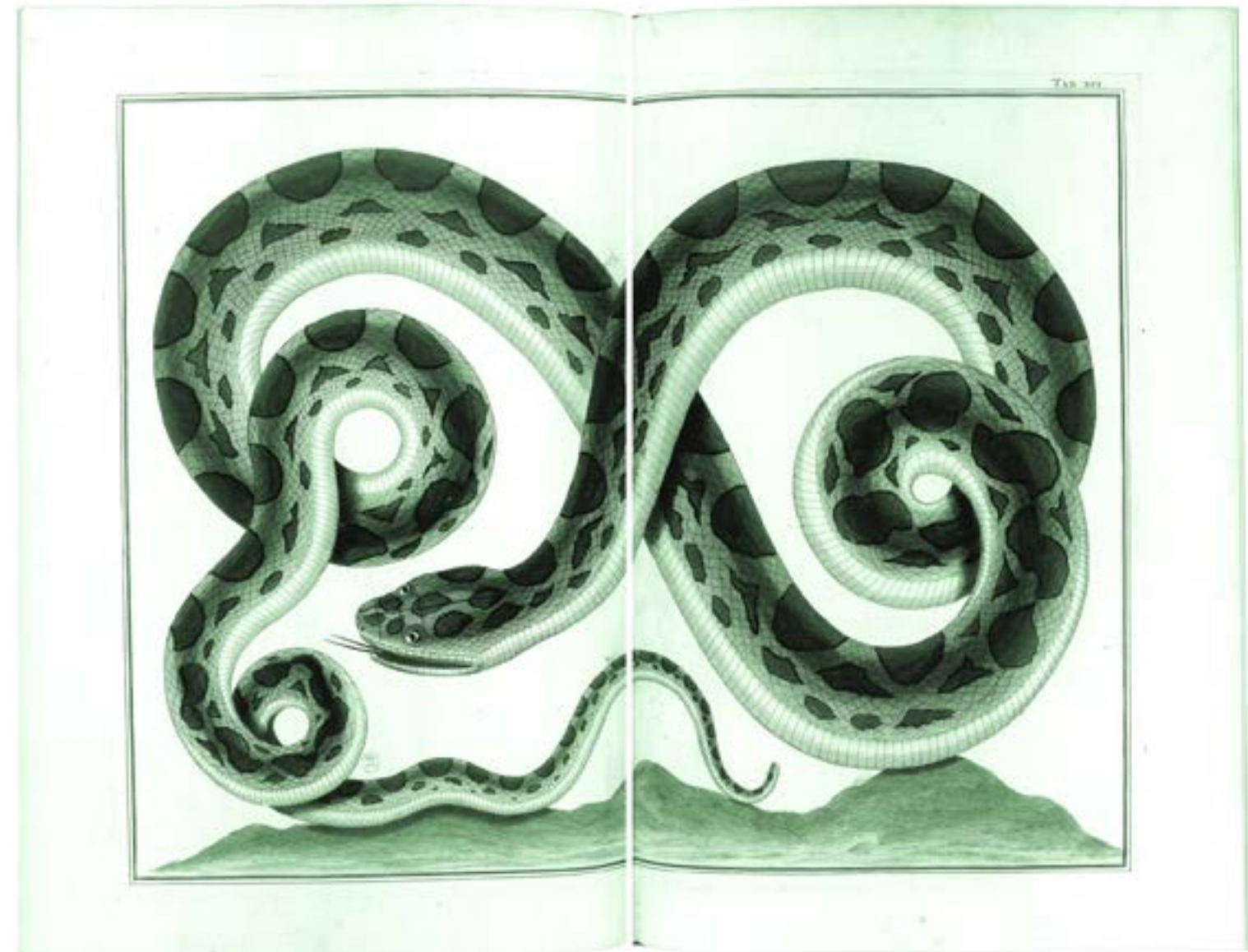
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Ensemble of snake sculpture and print
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Sheet | H x W | 69,7 x 84,8 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

05

Three Carp
after Utagawa Hiroshige

Ensemble of carp sculpture and print
2023

Carp sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 60 x 110 x 45 cm

Inkjet print on paper | framed
Image | H x W | 24,5 x 37,4 cm
Sheet | H x W | 44,3 x 57,4 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

05

Three Carp
after Utagawa Hiroshige

Ensemble of carp sculpture and print
2023

Carp sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 60 x 110 x 45 cm

Inkjet print on paper | framed
Image | H x W | 24,5 x 37,4 cm
Sheet | H x W | 44,3 x 57,4 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

06

Carp
after Utagawa Hiroshige

Ensemble of carp sculpture and print
2022

Carp sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 50 x 90 x 50 cm

Inkjet print on paper
Image | H x W | 35 x 29 cm
Frame | H x W | 41 x 35 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

06

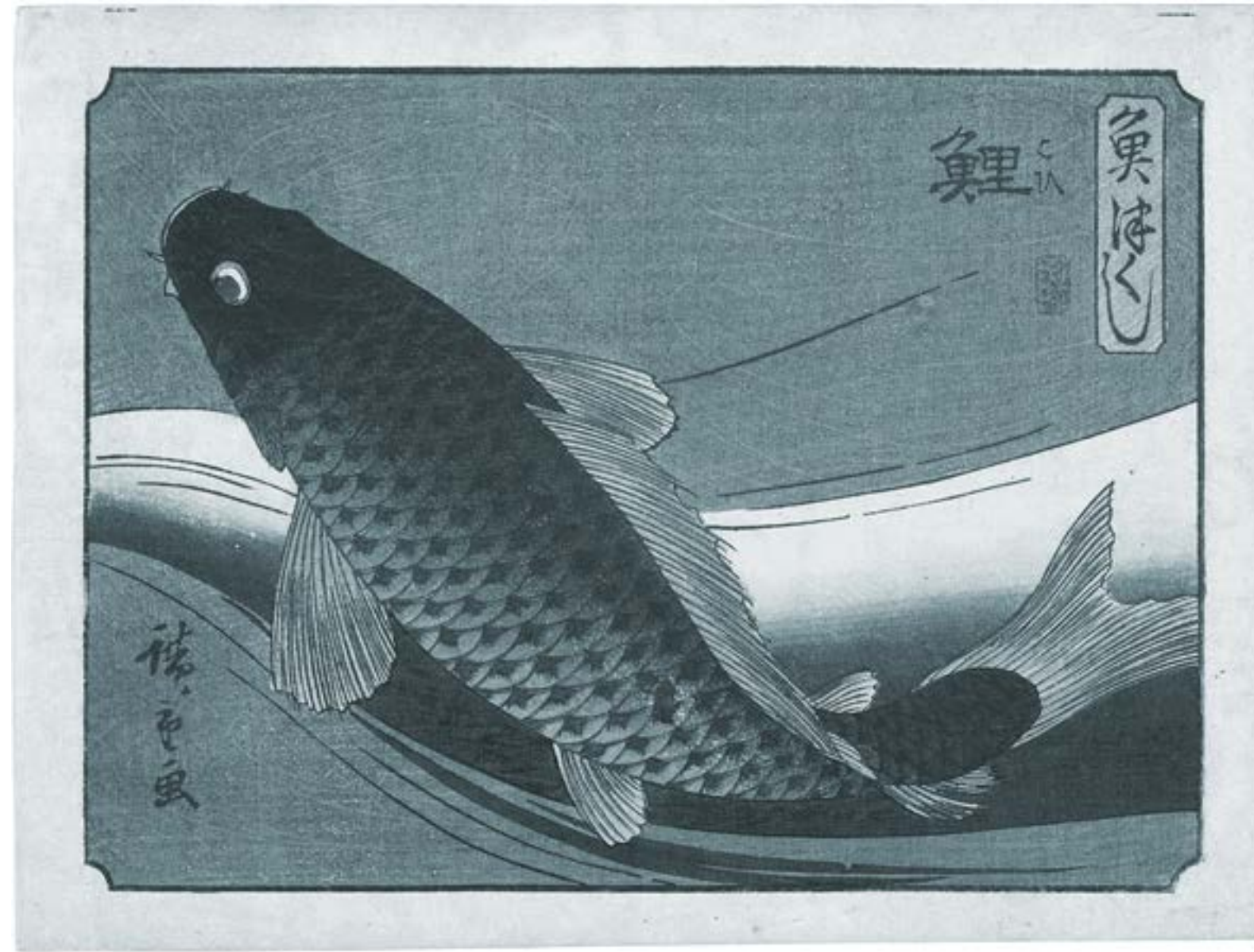
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Ensemble of carp sculpture and print
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Carp sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 50 x 90 x 50 cm

Inkjet print on paper
Image | H x W | 35 x 29 cm
Frame | H x W | 41 x 35 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

07

Demon
after Giotto di Bondone

Ensemble of demon sculpture and 2 prints
2018

Demon sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 105 x 120 x 100 cm

2 inkjet prints on paper

Print-1 | full view | frame | H x W | 135 x 125 cm

Print-2 | detail view | frame | H x W | 46,5 x 54 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

08

King-Charles-Spaniel
after Johann Friedrich Wegener

Ensemble of spaniel sculpture and print
2019

Spaniel sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 55 x 88 x 34 cm

Inkjet print on paper

Image | H x W | 58 x 78 cm

Frame | H x W | 83 x 101 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

08

King-Charles-Spaniel
after Johann Friedrich Wegener

Ensemble of spaniel sculpture and print
2019

Spaniel sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 55 x 88 x 34 cm

Inkjet print on paper
Image | H x W | 58 x 78 cm
Frame | H x W | 83 x 101 cm

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MARTA KLONOWSKA

09

Venus and Adonis
after Peter Paul Rubens

Ensemble of greyhound sculpture and print
2008

Greyhound sculpture | glass on metal frame work
H x L x W | 68 x 120 x 30 cm

Inkjet print on paper
Image | H x W | 138 x 95 cm
Frame | H x W | 156 x 113 cm

Private collection | Berlin



MARTA KLONOWSKA

10

The Temptation of Saint Anthony
after Frans Francken the Younger

Ensemble of flute player sculpture and print
2008

Flute player sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 94 x 58 x 44 cm

Inkjet print on paper

Image | H x W | 52 x 80 cm

Frame | H x W | 76 x 102 cm

Private collection | Berlin



MARTA KLONOWSKA

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The Temptation of Saint Anthony
after Frans Francken the Younger

Ensemble of flute player sculpture and print
2008

Flute player sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 94 x 58 x 44 cm

Inkjet print on paper

Image | H x W | 52 x 80 cm

Frame | H x W | 76 x 102 cm

Private collection | Berlin



MARTA KLONOWSKA

||

*Duke Henry the Pious of Saxony and his Wife Catherine of Mecklenburg
after Lucas Cranach the Elder*

Ensemble of Saluki and lion dog sculptures, pair of men's shoes and 2 prints
2003

Saluki dog sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 120 x 130 x 50 cm

Lion dog sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 60 x 45 x 25 cm

Pair of men's shoes | glass on wire mesh
H x L x W | 10 x 30 x 15 cm | each shoe

2 inkjet prints on paper
Image | H x W | 29 x 13 cm
Frame | H x W | 40 x 25 cm

Private collection | Berlin



MARTA KLONOWSKA

II

*Duke Henry the Pious of Saxony and his Wife Catherine of Mecklenburg
after Lucas Cranach the Elder*

Ensemble of Saluki and lion dog sculptures, pair of men's shoes and 2 prints
2003

Saluki dog sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 120 x 130 x 50 cm

Lion dog sculpture | glass on metal framework
H x L x W | 60 x 45 x 25 cm

Pair of men's shoes | glass on wire mesh
H x L x W | 10 x 30 x 15 cm | each shoe

2 inkjet prints on paper
Image | H x W | 29 x 13 cm
Frame | H x W | 40 x 25 cm

Private collection | Berlin



MARTA KLONOWSKA

12

Baltasar Carlos as a Hunter
after Diego Velázquez

Ensemble of 2 dog sculptures, pair of children's boots and print
2003

Lying dog sculpture | glass on metal frame work
H x L x W | 35 x 90 x 60 cm

Sitting dog sculpture | glass on metal frame work
H x L x W | 55 x 35 x 25 cm

Pair of children's boots | glass on wire mesh
H x L x W | 35 x 25 x 10 cm

Inkjet print on canvas
Stretcher | H x W | 188 x 101 cm

Private collection | Berlin



ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Marta Klonowska, born in Warsaw in 1964, studied at the Academies of Fine Arts in Wroclaw (1987-89) and Düsseldorf (1989-97). In 1997, her professor A. R. Penck awarded her the post-graduate degree of Meisterschülerin.

Marta Klonowska lives in Ustronie Morskie/PL and Düsseldorf/DE.

Public Collections

- Fort Wayne Museum of Art | Fort Wayne | US-IN
- Barbara Achilles Foundation | Hamburg | DE
- Toyama Glass Art Museum | Toyama | JP
- Alexander Tutšek Foundation | Munich | DE
- The Corning Museum of Glass | Corning | US-NY
- Kunstsammlungen der Veste Coburg | DE
- Hentrich Glass Museum | museum kunst palast | Düsseldorf | DE
- Ernsting Glass Museum | Ernsting Foundation | Coesfeld | DE
- Musée-Atelier du Verre | Sars-Poteries | FR

Recognitions

- 2006 · The Bombay Sapphire Prize – Final Exhibition | London
- 2005 · Jutta-Cuny-Franz Prize | Honorary Diploma | Düsseldorf
- 2002 · Artist in residence | Akerby Skulpturpark | SE

Selected Publications

- 2025 · Glass Menagerie | exhibition catalogue | CRP – Center of Polish Sculpture | Oronsko
- 2019 · Istota | exhibition catalogue | Toyama Glass Art Museum | Toyama
- 2014 · Lady Walking Her Dog | Daisuke Murata | The Window of Arts Magazine | Japan | Nov 2014
- 2013 · Nature Morte | Michael Petry | Thames & Hudson | London
- 2011 · Materials Revisited | exhibition catalogue | Museum für Angewandte Kunst Frankfurt | jovis Verlag GmbH
- 2009 · Cocker Spaniel and Other Tools for International Understanding | Kunsthalle zu Kiel | DuMont
- 2008 · Streichelzoo | Helmut Ricke | museum kunst palast | Düsseldorf

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 · Die Glasmenagerie | Reiss-Engelhorn Museum | Mannheim | DE
- The Glass Menagerie | Ursynowskie Centrum Kultury Alternaywy | Warsaw | PL
- The Glass Menagerie | CRP – Center of Polish Sculpture | Oronsko | PL
- 2024 · Vom Eigenleben der Kreaturen | Achilles Stiftung | Hamburg | DE
- 2023 · Duchruchu - Liikahduksia – Movements | The Finnish Glass Museum | Riihimäki | FN
- 2019 · Istota | Toyama Glass Art Museum | Toyama | JP
- 2015 · Lion Dog Meets Garden Dog | lorch+seidel | Berlin | DE
- 2013 · Puszek and Friends | lorch+seidel | Berlin | DE
- 2009 · Geschöpfe (with Sibylle von Preussen) | lorch+seidel | Berlin | DE
- Domestic Animals | The Finnish Glass Museum | Riihimäki | FN
- 2008 · Streichelzoo | museum kunst palast | Düsseldorf | DE
- 2003 · dogwalk | lorch+seidel | Berlin | DE

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2022 · Cold - Art Made from Glass y Using Cold-Working Techniques | Ernsting Glass Museum | Coesfeld | DE
- Fragile! Alles aus Glas - Grenzbereiche des Skulpturalen | Kunstmuseum Ahlen | Ahlen | DE
- Cabinet de Curiosité | MusVerre | Sars-Poteries | FR
- 2021 · Fragile! Alles aus Glas - Grenzbereiche des Skulpturalen | Kunsthalle Vogelmann | Heilbronn | DE
- Cultural Affairs - Art Without Borders | Grassi Museum | Leipzig | DE
- 2016 · Triennale Européene de la Céramique et du Verre | Anciens Abattoirs | Mons | BE
- Wie es uns gefällt | Herbert Gerisch-Foundation | Neumünster | DE
- 2015 · Inaugural exhibition | Toyama Glass Art Museum | JP
- 2012 · European Glass Context | Bornholm Art Museum | DK
- Glasstress NY - New Art from the Venice Bienniales | Museum of Arts & Design New York | US-NY
- In the Name of Love | Alexander Tutšek-Foundation | Munich | DE
- 2011 · Materials Revisited | Museum für Angewandte Kunst | Frankfurt/Main | DE
- Glasstress | Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti | Venice | IT
- 2009 · Cocker Spaniel and other Tools ... | Kunsthalle Kiel | DE

Marta Klonowska

Glass Menagerie - Solo Exhibition

REM - Reiss-Engelhorn Museum Mannheim

Saturday, 25 October 2025 - Sunday, 21 June 2026

Curated by Eva-Maria Günther



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