

# firebrand

First Alberta Artists at SOFA Chicago

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate distribution

Nov 5-7, 2010 (Chicago, IL) – Glass artists Tyler Rock and Julia Reimer, will be the first Alberta artists to ever be invited to exhibit at SOFA Chicago. Taking place at Chicago's historic Navy Pier, it features only the very best galleries and art dealers. At SOFA Chicago 2010, Tyler Rock and Julia Reimer will be showing in conjunction with Montreal's Option Art.

Focusing on art that is both sculptural and functional, SOFA Chicago has gained a reputation for showing the best art of this kind in the world. Since its beginnings 17 years ago the number of attendees has steadily increased. Now with an average attendance of more than 30,000 people it has evolved into one of the most prestigious art events in North America.

As two of Canada's premier glass artists, Tyler Rock and Julia Reimer both derive their inspiration from the history of Canada. Rock's current series *The Almighty Voice* is an exploration of diverging viewpoints of the Riel Rebellion. This body of work deals specifically with the final insurgent uprising of the Rebellion, and serves as both a narrative exploration of the event, as well as an examination of the role of craft objects as cultural artifacts. Conversely, Reimer's current body of work draws from her personal history. Inspired by her memories of time spent in Alberta's grasslands as a child, she explores how time and development have altered these landscapes from her youth.

Tyler Rock and Julia Reimer have had long careers marked by successes both at home and internationally. Their work can be found in numerous public, corporate and private collections, including the Premier of Alberta, the offices of the Prime Minister in Ottawa, the Department of Foreign Affairs, and the collection of Emperor and Empress of Japan. Both currently live in Black Diamond, AB, where they own and operate Firebrand Glass Studio.

SOFA Chicago takes place at the Festival Hall at Chicago's Navy Pier from November 5 – 7, 2010, with an opening night preview on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Tyler Rock and Julia Reimer's work will be on display with Montreal's Option Art.

Media interviews and photography available, please contact:

Julia Reimer

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For artist backgrounds, glass art photos, and video demonstrating the art of glass blowing by two of Canada's most internationally recognized glass artists, visit:

[www.firebrandglass.ca](http://www.firebrandglass.ca).