Bio:

Nick Leonoff was born in 1978 in Santa Clara, California. Nick began working with glass as an apprentice to Alan Masaoka, a stained glass artist in 1998. He received a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Pepperdine University in 2002. Nick returned to glass in 2004 when Alan Masaoka introduced him to glass blowing. He has studied at numerous Craft Schools around the country including Pilchuck Glass School, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Pittsburgh Glass Center, and the Studio at Corning. He has studied with many notable artist including Davide Salvedore, Martin Janecky, Jack Wax and Jiri Harcuba, to learn his craft and develop his skills. Nick also considerers himself self-taught with the considerable amount of time he has spent refining his techniques. In 2011, Nick moved his studio to Brooklyn, NY to further pursue his artistic endeavors. After a very creative and developmental time in NYC, Nick returned to his hometown of Carmel Valley, CA. In 2017, Nick opened Leonoff Studios & Gallery where he creates his blown glass and shows his midrange works. He expanded in 2019 by opening a new showroom, Nick Leonoff Contemporary Glass Gallery to exhibit his blown and carved sculptures in Carmel Valley Village. Nick also continues to travel and exhibit his work at selected art fairs nationally.

**Portal Statement:**

The Portal cradles the importance of balance, not just the balance of mass and form but more dynamically the interplay of light and dark revealed through the opaque and translucent glass. The material embraces the significance of relativity and how light emitted from a dark space appears brighter.  The balance that emerges connects the conscious with the subconscious as the voice of the glass echoes through the reflections of light.

**Artist Statement:**

The luminescent qualities of glass appeal to me as it responds to light. I am drawn to the potential of a material that can vary from a translucent to an opaque medium in a brilliant range of colors and gradations.

I create blown glass using Swedish overlay techniques layering colored glass in the walls and on the surface of the glass forms. I carve the surface of the pieces with diamond wheels to remove layers of glass and expose colors within the piece. The blown pieces become the canvas for the carving process and the carving becomes the core of the design in each piece. Through this coldworking process I have been able to explore the potential of the material and focus my artistic vision.

I am creating a relationship between the interior and exterior by juxtaposing opaque and translucent, glossy & matte, with light and dark. The balance that is revealed connects the conscious with the subconscious as the voice of the material emerges through the reflections of light.

Experience:

Leonoff Studios Inc. Carmel Valley, CA 2017 - 2020

Leonoff Art Glass Brooklyn, NY 2011 - 2017

Owner/ Artist Monterey, CA 2005 - 2010

Masaoka Glass Design Carmel Valley, CA 2003-2006

Business Management, Stained Glass Fabrication, and Studio Technician 1998-2000

Education:

Pepperdine University Malibu, CA 2000-2002

BS Business Administration Cum Laude

Monterey Peninsula College Monterey, CA 1997-2000

AA Business Administration

**Continued Education:**

The Studio – Corning Museum of Glass Corning, NY July. 2012

Scholarship: Jiri Harcuba & April Surgent - Zen Graving

The Studio – Corning Museum of Glass Corning, NY Aug. 2011

George Kennard – Multiple Gathers

Pittsburgh Glass Center Pittsburgh, PA June 2011

Ross Richmond – From Phrase to Form

The Studio – Corning Museum of Glass Corning, NY June 2010

Martin Janecky – Blowing and Sculpting Inside the Bubble

The Studio - Corning Museum of Glass Corning, NY June 2009

Davide Salvadore - Creating and Using Murrine

Haystack Deer Isle, ME Aug. 2008

Mountain School of Crafts

Scholarship: Jack Wax – No Answers in the Back of the Book

The Studio - Corning Museum of Glass Corning, NY July 2008

Scholarship: Anthony Schafermeyer & Claire Kelly – Playing With Pattern

Pilchuck Glass School Stanwood, WA May 2007

Greg Dietrich – Graal, Cameo, Battuto

Pittsburgh Glass Center Pittsburgh, PA June 2006

Kait Rhoads - Painting with Italian Patterning Techniques

Red Deer College Red Deer, Alberta Canada July 2005

Tyler Rock - Anatomy of the Vessel

Bay Area Glass Institute San Jose, CA Mar. 2005

Treg Silkwood - Feet and Stems

Awards & Recognition

Best of Category La Quinta Arts Festival La Quinta, CA 2018

Artist Studios Residency Museum of Arts & Design New York, NY 2016

Merit Award Cherry Creek Arts Festival Denver, CO 2016

Niche Award Winner Glass Category Washington, DC 2016

Best in Show: Lighting BKLYN DESIGNS Brooklyn, NY 2015

Niche Award Winner Glass Category Philadelphia, PA 2015

Niche Award Winner Home Furnishings Category Philadelphia, PA 2015

Niche Award Finalist Glass Category Philadelphia, PA 2014

Excellence in Glass Smithsonian Craft Show Washington, DC 2013

Niche Award Winner Glass Category Philadelphia, PA 2013

Niche Award Finalist Home Furnishings Category Philadelphia, PA 2013

Excellence in Glass Museum of Art-Craft Show Philadelphia, PA 2012

Award of Excellence American Craft Council San Francisco, CA 2012

Selected Arts & Crafts Shows:

La Quinta Arts Festival La Quinta, CA March 2018 - 2020

ARTEXPO New York New York, NY April. 2018m - 2019

Philadelphia Museum Show Philadelphia, PA Nov. 2012 - 2017

Cherry Creek Arts Festival Denver, CO July 2014 - 2017

Architectural Digest Show New York, NY Mar. 2016 & 2017

Sausalito Art Festival Sausalito, CA Aug 2014

Smithsonian Craft Show Washington, DC April 2013, 2018, 2019

Washington Craft Show Washington, DC Nov. 2012

American Craft Council San Francisco, CA Aug. 2010, 2012, 2014

CraftNewYork New York, NY April 2012

American Craft Council Baltimore, MD Feb. 2011 - 2017

Selected Solo Exhibitions:

“Transition” Masaoka Design Gallery Carmel Valley, CA June - July 2010

Private Exhibition Kourakos Residence New York, NY May 2010

“Play with Fire” Masaoka Design Gallery Carmel Valley, CA Aug. - July 2009

“Coastal Lines” Public Installation LALLA Grill Monterey, CA Sept. 2008 – Oct. 2009

“Coastal Lines” Masaoka Design Gallery Carmel Valley, CA June - July 2008

Nick Leonoff “New Glass Forms” Masaoka Design Gallery Carmel Valley, CA July – Aug. 2007

Nick Leonoff “New Glass Forms” Masaoka Design Gallery Carmel Valley, CA May – June 2006

Selected Group Exhibitions:

“Texture & Tension” Morgan Glass Gallery Pittsburgh, PA Sep. - Oct. 2014

“Art Glass” Gallery North Setauket, NY Jun. - July 2012

Featured Artist Corning Glass Museum Corning, NY Oct. 2011

“Objects” Gallery North Carmel, CA Dec. 2007

Vidrio Del Mar “Sea of Glass” Masaoka Design Gallery Carmel Valley, CA July – Aug. 2006

Publications:

Carmel Magazine “Coming Home with Connie” May 2018

831 Magazine “The Art of Glass Blowing” Sept. 2012

Monterey County Magazine “A Glass Act” Winter 2008

Home Style By The Sea “A Wright Way to Remodel” Spring 2008

The Monterey County Herald “Pumpkins, Real and Glass” Oct.7th 2007

The Carmel Pine Cone “Aspiring glass artist puts business degree to work” July 13th 2007

Home Style By The Sea “Ones to Watch” Sept. 2006

Carmel Valley Country “Nick Leonoff: Carmel Valley Glass Blower” May 2006

The Monterey County Herald “C.V. glass blower keeps old-world craft alive” May 7th 2006

The Salinas Californian “He breathes life into glass” Aug 12th 2005

Benefits, Auctions & Events:

Liberty Museum Auction Philadelphia, PA 2013

Pilchuck Glass Auction Stanwood, WA 2007 - 2011

Associations:

American Craft Council

ACGA Association of Clay & Glass Artists of California

Monterey County Artist Equity

Glass Art Society