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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**San Antonio glass artist Melissa Childers honored as finalist in the 2006 *Ignite***

***International Juried Exhibition***

**SAN ANTONIO**, Texas - The 2006 *Ignite International Juried Exhibition* selected San Antonio native Melissa Childers' art glass wall hanging, "Auspicious at Midnight," as one of 33 finalists in their international competition in kiln-formed glass. The exhibition is on display at the Sandra J. Blain Gallery, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, August 18 – October 7, 2006. *Ignite* was sponsored by Warm Glass, one of the leaders in kiln-worked glass education and a technical forum relied upon by glass artists worldwide.

Warm Glass held a weekend conference for glass artists at Arrowmont in conjunction with the exhibition, September 15 – 17, with glass classes the week before and after. This gave the opportunity for *Ignite* to be viewed not only by the normal visitors to the Blain Gallery – artisans enrolled in Arrowmont classes, travelers to the Smoky Mountains and the resort town of Gatlinburg, and Blain Gallery supporters - but also allowed an international group of glass artists and their art glass instructors from across the US to view the juried exhibition and the *Invitational Exhibition* that accompanied it.

Childers' piece, "Auspicious at Midnight," is designed as a wall hanging "20" x "14." The subtle images of a crane silhouetted in moonlight with clouds were created with the application of powder-size grains of glass on a sheet of silver iridescent-coated black glass. The powder was applied in layers through repetitive kiln-firings. The title of this piece was derived from the oriental belief in the crane as a propitious sign giving or indicating future success, of presenting favorable conditions.

**MORE**

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Childers' art glass is available in San Antonio at Gallery Vetro, San Antonio Museum of Art, and Wired Designs, and in Santa Fe, NM at the Purple Sage. Her works range from multicolored abstracts to representational designs. Professional photographer Joey Pena's image of

"Auspicious at Midnight" can be viewed in an online gallery of all the finalists at

[www.warmglass.org](http://www.warmglass.org) - 'Juried Exhibition' - 'finalists.'

Designing imagery and message to transcend the inherent beauty of glass allowed Childers'

distinctive "Auspicious at Midnight" to be chosen as a finalist in the *2006 Ignite International*

*Juried Exhibition*. Contact artist Melissa Childers by email at [childersstudio@satx.rr.com](mailto:childersstudio@satx.rr.com)

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