



## VITRUM 2020 Pulsas | Pulse

International glass art festival

**Exhibition *Clear Space***

**(09-10-2020 – 15-11-2020)**

The glass art exhibition *Clear Space* in the *Vitrum 2020 Pulse* festival's context seeks to feel the pulse of the Baltic countries' glass art community, influenced by the events of the last decade. The first *Vitrum Balticum* exhibition, held in the year 2000, brought together the Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian glass art community. Similar creative situations, possibilities, close personal relations and contacts have always linked this circle of artists. The community is connected not just by glass art, but often by camaraderie or even a peculiar friendship. Thanks to this community, the project steadily grew, strengthened and remained especially relevant in our geographical region. With the social and economic changes taking place in the world, and changes of glass materials' meaning and relevancy, the community found itself in the new context of today, which invites to think anew and define the community's role in the context of contemporary art. During the festival, upon gathering the members of the community, the question regarding the relationship amongst ourselves and with the environment is raised, which is inherent from the relevant problems, such as the lack of social transparency, the information based society, and environmental concerns.

The name of the exhibition – *Clear Space* raises the concept of space, in which the subjects may move separately and be a part of a common structure. Space is utilized with the intent of discerning what amount of distance is kept between them and how that distance influences the measure of the community's connected-ness. Meanwhile, the concept of transparency, as a main characteristic of glass as a material, becomes the figurative visual representation of a connection, describing the invisible link between an individual and the environment, widening or limiting the person's possibilities. Looking from a wider perspective, it may be linked with the paraphrase of a transparent society's relationship. Transparency is what we seek in different aspects of our lives, starting with personal relationships, ending with our views on the climate and nature. It's a characteristic, which became the synonym for honesty and which usually decides the trust between people. The greater part of society's actions are still eclipsed by a lack of , which services the needs of specific social groups. It influences inequality and the divide between social groups, as well as stands in the way of forming clearer and better-balanced relationships in today's society.

In the context of the 2020 exhibition *Clear Space*, the artists are invited to explore the relation between space and transparency, to analyze the artists' influence over social processes. At the same time, it raises the nowadays-relevant questions of technological change, social and environmental problems, the relevance of community survival, the significance of transparency in today's society and at the same time, while in relation to the surrounding environment and within ourselves.

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Distance doesn't exist, in fact, and neither does time.

Vibrations from love or music can be felt everywhere, at all times.

– Yoko Ono