



NEWS RELEASE

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***Orbit*, Originally in Rockefeller Center’s Rainbow Room, Finds New Home at Toledo Museum of Art**

TOLEDO, Ohio – Dan Dailey has built a storied career as an artist, participating in more than 250 exhibitions as well as having a major retrospective at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum. His work is represented in more than 45 museum collections around the world.

On the surface, all these successes appear connected to his work in glass. Looking deeper, the viewer realizes his medium of choice is far more challenging to manipulate: light.

Illumination is at the center of so much of what Dailey does, and *Orbit* (1987), a recent gift to the Toledo Museum of Art collection, is an exceptional example.

Formerly in Rockefeller Center’s Rainbow Room in New York, the sculpture now resides in its new home outside TMA’s Little Theater. Donated by New York real estate firm Tishman Speyer, *Orbit* is a glowing work of glass with a changing lighting scheme that radiates shades of amber, rose, violet and blue. The muted, ethereal feeling the work evokes contrasts with the images from ancient mythology, space exploration and science fiction that are cast into the glass.

“It’s a pretty significant piece for me,” Dailey said. “When I think about my influences, many are revealed here. This is about a kind of wide-ranging view of things that are significant in the history of art and in the history of design, and the iconography of these things.

“In retrospect, as big as it is, I realize it was still a really personal object.”

Commissioned in 1986 for the Rainbow Room nightclub, *Orbit*’s first inspiration was the space’s revolving dance floor and iconic history. In 2014, almost 30 years later, the 15- by 8-foot glass mural was removed from its location behind the bandstand when the Rainbow Room’s owners had it dismantled as part of a major overhaul of the club’s interior. It was saved and donated to its new home in Toledo, Ohio, in 2015.

“*Orbit*’s scale is one reason it’s quite an impressive glass sculpture,” said Halona Norton-Westbrook, the Museum’s director of collections. “But it’s also special because of the level of detail that went into the work, so that it has visual impact both from a distance, as it was installed

Dan Dailey's *Orbit*—2

in New York, as well as close-up. We're thrilled to acquire this substantial work in glass for TMA's collection."

The installation of *Orbit* is the Museum's third collaboration with Dailey; in 2007, he co-authored the children's book "Glassigator," and in 2008, he was invited to participate in the Guest Artist Pavilion Project at the Museum's Glass Pavilion.

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NOTE: A selection of images suitable for a slideshow documenting the installation of *Orbit* is available upon request. For an interview or to request images, contact Marketing Communications Coordinator Alia Orra at 419-255-8000 ext. 7542 or aorra@toledomuseum.org or Public Relations Manager Teri Sharp at 419-254-5082 or tsharp@toledomuseum.org.

The Toledo Museum of Art is a nonprofit arts institution funded through individual donations, foundation grants, corporate sponsorships and investments. The Ohio Arts Council helps fund programs at the Toledo Museum of Art through a sustainability grant program that encourages economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. Glass Pavilion® and Toledo Museum of Art Glass Pavilion® are registered service marks.

Admission to the Museum is free. The Museum is open Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.; closed Monday and major holidays. Thursday evening hours are made possible by Huntington Private Client Group; Friday evening hours are made possible by Fifth Third Bank.

The Museum is located at 2445 Monroe Street at Scottwood Avenue, just west of the downtown business district and one block off I-75 with exit designations posted. For general information, visitors can call 419-255-8000 or 800-644-6862, or visit toledomuseum.org.