

# panache

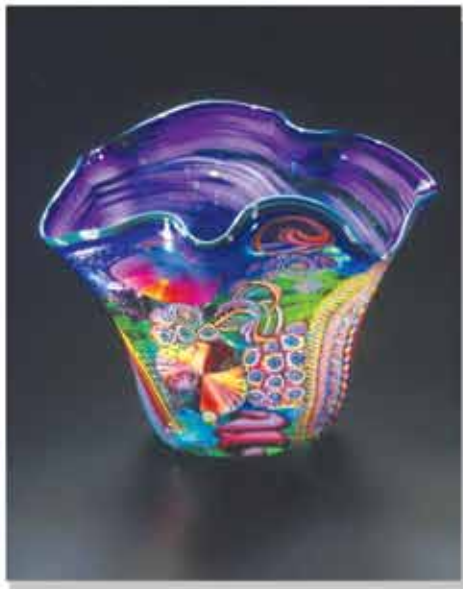
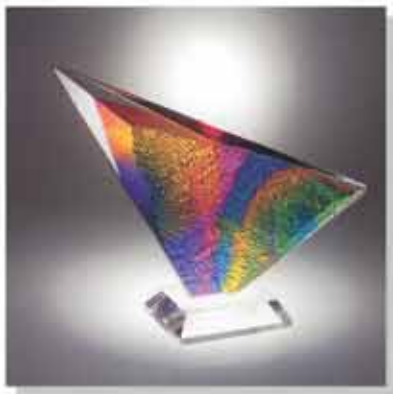
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# Shape Shifter

**Andy Verzosa**, a familiar face of the local art scene, on returning to Maine for a new challenge. **INTERVIEW BY SARAH MOORE**

**T**he Ogunquit Museum of American Art recently appointed First Friday art walk founder and former owner of Aucocisco Gallery, **Andres Azucena Verzosa**, as Interim Executive Director and Curator. We catch up with the Portland native to discuss his new role, upcoming projects, and what he misses most about living in Maine.

**Congratulations on your new position. Easy choice?**  
Yes. I've served on the board for the OMAA for a number of years, as well as various collaborations; from coordinating the acquisition of Bernard Langlais sculptures for the museum garden, to guest curating last year's photography exhibitions. I'm also back and forth between Maine and Connecticut regularly, so it was a very natural step for me to accept the position.

**What does the interim role entail?**

My aim is to ensure the smoothing running of the museum and its collections

across all levels. Specifically, maintaining continuity between Ron Crusan and the new director, who I'll also be helping to prepare to take over.

**What's grabbing you this very second?**

I'm already excited to oversee the installation of a permanent collection of works by artists from the Ogunquit arts colony between 1896-1946. The fact that we have such a strong body of work that we're able to establish a permanent collection is testament to how much of an inspiration Ogunquit was for so many artists. It's such a dynamic place, and the historic aspect of the project is exciting for me.

**What painting here whispers to you?**

Walt Kuhn's, *Sleeping Girl* (1922). The enigmatic subject and use of tilted picture plane and cubist space create a modernist master work.

**You're now based out of Connecticut. What do you miss about living in Portland?**



Walking the peninsula; taking the ferry to Peaks Island; meeting old friends at one of Portland's many excellent coffee shops. ■

The Ogunquit Museum of American Art 2016 season runs May 1-October 31. [ogunquitmuseum.org](http://ogunquitmuseum.org)