



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

4344 Shaw Boulevard • St. Louis, MO • 63110 • (314) 577-5100 • www.mobot.org

CHIHULY at the MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN April 30 to October 31, 2006 presented by **EMERSON**.

Aug. 10, 2005

Contact: Public Relations Dept., (314) 577-0254 or (314) 577-5141;
karen.hagenow@mobot.org or lisa.brandon@mobot.org

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Glass in the Garden: CHIHULY AT THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN IN 2006
Six-Month Exhibition Presented by Emerson Is Expected to Draw Record Attendance

The Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis will present “Glass in the Garden: Chihuly at the Missouri Botanical Garden” in 2006, a custom-designed, stunning show of glass sculptures by Chihuly.

Chihuly’s style is immediately identifiable by monumental abstract sculptures of intensely vibrant colors, fluid and organic forms, and complex groupings of many pieces. “Glass in the Garden” is presented by Emerson and is destined to be the premiere cultural event of 2006.

The six-month exhibition that juxtaposes fine art with nature will open on April 30, 2006 and continue through October 31. The historic 79-acre Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in southwest St. Louis.

“We are so pleased and excited to provide the venue for this spectacular exhibit. Dale Chihuly’s artistry is remarkable. His ability to turn humble sand into majestic works of blown glass is truly a rare gift,” said Dr. Peter H. Raven, director of the Garden. “The Garden is very grateful to Emerson for its tremendous generosity in helping us to bring this exhibit to the people of St. Louis and the entire region.”

Chihuly’s blown glass forms will be showcased dramatically within the natural landscapes of one of St. Louis’s most historic and popular cultural attractions. The major installation will be inside the Climatron conservatory, the Garden’s most recognizable structure and the world’s first geodesic dome to enclose a rain forest. The Climatron will become a spectacular greenhouse gallery of “glass under glass,” with sculptures placed among thousands of exotic tropical plants that include cycads, a giant talipot palm, banyan and double coconut tree. As visitors walk through the lush, warm Climatron, they will discover breathtaking views of colorful plantlike shapes at every turn. The interplay of sunlight and glass will heighten the sculptures’ translucent and transparent qualities.

glass in the garden

Other glass installations will be placed prominently outdoors south of the Garden's Ridgway Center main entrance building. Groupings of brightly colored, bold shapes will float upon the central axis reflecting pools and nestle in flower gardens.

Adding an exciting dimension to the exhibit, the Garden will host "Chihuly Nights" every Thursday, which will offer visitors unique, dramatically lit views of the exhibit in the glow of evening.

Chihuly enjoys an international reputation for glass as a fine art medium. His major architectural installations have included "Chihuly Over Venice," "Chihuly in the Light of Jerusalem" and the "Chihuly Bridge of Glass" located in his hometown of Tacoma, Washington. His creations are found in more than 200 museums worldwide, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the Palais de Louvre.

A frequent supporter of the arts, Emerson (NYSE:EMR), the presenting sponsor is based in St. Louis. The firm is a global leader in bringing technology and engineering together to provide innovative solutions to customers through its network power, process management, industrial automation, climate technologies, and appliance and tools businesses. Sales in fiscal 2004 were \$15.6 billion. For more information, visit www.GoToEmerson.com.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in St. Louis, just south of Interstate 44, two blocks east of the Vandeventer-Kingshighway exit. The Garden is open daily (except Christmas) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.. The grounds open for early morning walking at 7 a.m. each Wednesday and Saturday. Limited free off-street parking is available at the Garden and also two blocks west of the Garden, at Shaw and Vandeventer.

The Garden is easily accessible via public transportation by taking the MetroLink to the Central West End station and picking up a Metro bus on weekdays. For information about events, hours, directions and more, log on to www.mobot.org or call the 24-hour Garden Line recording at (314) 577-9400 or (800) 642-8842. For membership information, call (314) 577-5118 during weekday business hours.

For more information about Dale Chihuly and his art, visit www.chihuly.com.

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NOTE: A press kit and a digital color image are available upon request.