

V e s s e l



Cathryn Shilling (1957 -)

Antarctic Confluence VIII

Circa: 2014

2014

United Kingdom

Glass

47 x 50 x 14 cm (18¹/₄ x 19⁵/₁₆ inches)

Kiln formed glass, dimensions above include a wooden display stand, not shown.

Shilling experiments with colour and technique to produce beautiful one off sculptures. Her innovative pieces push the glass beyond our usual comfort zones. Glass rods are woven together like fabric, mimicking the flexibility and movement of cloth. The apparent frailty of the glass is balanced by the strong dynamic forms, differing levels of light picking out layers of colour.

In the artist's own words;

"The Antarctic Peninsula is a remote and primordial place. A vast and pristine landscape of mountains, calving glaciers, hanging ice cliffs, huge tabula icebergs, sea ice and the deep ocean. Through this work I intend to interpret, rather than reproduce my encounters within this remarkable environment. In particular where sky, sea, land and ice collide. By compiling fine strands of glass in multiple layers my aim is to explore and describe the experience and intensity of the colour of this exquisite place

Literature:

Unique

Artist description:

Cathryn Shilling began her arts career as a graphic designer but went on to study glass after moving to Connecticut with her family. On returning to the UK she studied kiln formed glass at Kensington and Chelsea College and blown glass with Peter Layton at the London Glassblowing Workshop. She set up studio in London in 2007 from where she has gone on to create a huge body and variety of work.

Shilling experiments with colour and technique to produce beautiful one off sculptures. Her innovative pieces push the glass beyond our usual comfort zones. With some sculptures, glass rods are woven

together like fabric, mimicking the flexibility and movement of cloth. The apparent frailty of the glass is balanced by the strong dynamic forms, differing levels of light picking out layers of colour. With other works, bubbles are trapped in swathes of watery hues. Her colour palette and choice of forms are very much informed by the various natural states in which water is found: icebergs, waterfalls and whirlpools for example.

Shilling's work is shown and represented in collections globally. She was winner of the V&A's 'Inspired By' award for glass in 2009.