

# V e s s e l



**Heather Gillespie (1984 - )**

## **Zostera Vase**

Circa: 2013

2013

United Kingdom

Glass

42 x 12 cm (16<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches)

Gillespie fell in love with the art of copper wheel engraving, an archaic process no longer taught in the UK, during the year that she spent in the Czech Republic following her training in Edinburgh. She is now applying her labour-intensive and precise deep cuts and patterns to hand blown glass vessels, bowls and lighting pieces, all unique and both expertly and exquisitely crafted.

## **Literature:**

Unique

## **Artist description:**

Heather Gillespie is a glass engraver specialising in the 16th century art of copper wheel engraving, a technique no longer taught in this country. Heather applies her designs with precise deep cuts and intricate patterns to hand blown lead crystal glass, a very labour intensive process, producing mesmerising vessels, bowls and lighting pieces, all unique and both expertly and exquisitely crafted. Gillespie plays with the refractive and reflective properties of glass and enjoys the limitless possibilities to create optical illusions by the means of skilful cutting and interaction with light.

Gillespie now divides her time between making art pieces and teaching the dying art of copper wheel engraving at the University of Wolverhampton, itself a historical centre for glass excellence in the UK.