

# V e s s e l



**Julie Johnson (1969 - )**

## **All About Birds I**

Circa: 2016

2016

France

Glass

41 x 16 x 13.5 cm (16<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches)

These beautifully sculpted birds perch watchful over their jars of treasure below. These art works are best explained further in the artist's own words:

"During an emotional period following the death of a friend, the terrorist attacks, Brexit and other more personal hurdles, I looked for ways to deal with these oppressive thoughts and feelings of sadness and fear through my work.

The initial idea for the vessels were to represent funeral urns. This developed into the idea of canopic jars, to store the vital organs of the deceased.

The work has evolved in such that they now store and protect feelings....Sadness, pain, fear, hope and joy. Guarded by the ever watchful sentinel"

## **Literature:**

Unique

## **Artist description:**

Originally from the west coast of Scotland, Julie Johnson has been living and working in France since 1994.

Johnson's journey with glass started out 25 years ago on the tiny island of Sark in the Channel Islands, from there she went on to study glass design at West Surrey college of Art in England and then worked in several independent studios in Britain, France and the United States, learning and perfecting the difficult techniques and skills required to make high quality blown glass.

In 2003, Johnson set up her present workshop in collaboration with Eric Lemarié in Paimpol, Brittany,

France.

Johnson has exhibited throughout Europe and the USA.

In the artist's own words;

"I always have a small sketchpad with me, to note and record thoughts and images of my everyday life. I keep these 'precious' to use when creating in the workshop. Spontaneity always invites itself one way or another, I wouldn't be able to create without it!"