

# V e s s e l



**Philip Baldwin & Monica Guggisberg**

## **Amber Festival**

Circa: 2017

2017

United Kingdom

Glass steel and gold leaf

26 x 70 x 17 cm (10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 27<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches)

Scandinavian and Venetian glass making techniques come together in Baldwin and Guggisberg's pieces. The sculptural Boat centerpieces are made out of smaller blown and cut glass components nestled (in sand) inside a boat shaped steel hull.

'We are migratory creatures; the history of our species is about journeys, departures, leaving and arriving, starting over. And none more so than ourselves. Our new work is both culturally and personally inclined. An autobiographical touch in civilizational reflection. Wherever man goes he builds, laying down cultural lines which gradually transform into relics and artefacts over time's inevitable march. Urban landscapes and complex designs grow and expand, deteriorate and decay. And on again we move, taking the memories of our exploits with us to use in the next story.' B&G

## **Literature:**

Unique

## **Artist description:**

Baldwin (1947, New York) and Guggisberg (1955, Bern) have been working together since 1980 with a purity of form and vivacity of colour bringing together Scandinavian and Venetian glassmaking techniques.

The list of museums and collections which have acquired their works is long and impressive. Individual showings, as well as participation in group shows, have given them opportunities to present their works at leading galleries and in major museums in Europe, Japan and the United States and their works rank among the best to be found in the international glass art scene. Working freelance, they have also designed successful products for international glass manufacturers since 1985. Their clients have included renowned firms like Rosenthal, Steuben, Corning and Venini.

In what has been a kaleidoscopic journey, the couple have undertaken a learning curve of constant exploration bound together by certain very basic overarching themes, a love of the material, a sense of art as an expression of beauty. Clarity of line is the thread which weaves the work together. While a point is a cross section of a line, the line itself runs indefinitely through space without limit. Their work is composed of short moments of these imagined lines, captured in glass, hot and cold.