

VESSEL GALLERY

LONDON



Julie Johnson (1969 -)

Playmate

Circa: 2017

2017

United Kingdom

Glass and steel

47 x 25 x 20 cm (18¹/₄ x 9⁷/₁₆ inches)

'Playmate' is a unique artwork created by the Scottish artist, Julie Johnson.

Following on from the series 'All About Birds' Johnson has decided to focus on Crows. With a defined identity and a strong silhouette these feathered characters challenge Johnson to sculpt with more complex detail. Her aim is to portray different expressions: greed, curiosity, pride, timidity for example. This in turn develops into imagined storylines incorporating other sculpted animals and objects.

Johnson has been blowing for over 20 years but recently started sculpting creatures. Working with a purely intuitive nature, the aim with all her bestial figures is to capture the essence of the 'animal expression' defined by each species' movement and natural position. This can only be done through observation, working instinctively and with repetition.

The artist can also create pieces to commission, please contact the gallery for further information.

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!"