

VESSEL GALLERY

LONDON



Liam Reeves and Charles Stern

Build 008

Circa: 2019

2019

United Kingdom

Glass ceramic and brass

48 x 24 x 22 cm (18⁷/₁₆ x 9¹/₁₆ inches)

'Build 008' is a unique sculpture from the Taskmaster Burst Series made in collaboration between the glass artist, Liam Reeves & the interdisciplinary designer, Charles Stern. Inspired by industrial landscapes and chimney stacks, each artwork is an exciting mix of traditional glass-making techniques with 3D-printed ceramics.

Liam Reeves is a glass artist & maker and also the hot shop technician at the RCA in London. His work makes use of some of the most complex glass techniques to reference computer graphics and renaissance pattern making.

Charles Stern runs WorkshopStern an interdisciplinary studio that combines glass and ceramic design, teaching and research.

Growing up in 1980s London was to grow up around beautiful, redundant buildings. An environment full of factories still standing, waiting for new purpose. Taskmaster Burst draws on our shared experience of a city where brickwork structures compete with a contemporary, rationalised architecture. This collection is a dreaming of a new production - manufactories that output colour from refractory materials - lighter than air in a parallel world.

The crafts of glassblowing and ceramics facilitate this collection and at their service are 3D printing and digital design. This new print language allows for patterns unavailable to the human hand and yet requires a material knowledge based in cultures of craft. There's message in the making: Old technology putting new technology to work.

Literature:

Unique

Artist description:

Liam Reeves has been making glass professionally since 1998 when he graduated from Middlesex University with a BA (Hons) in three-dimensional design. During this time he honed his skills whilst working in the glass industry for some of the best glassmakers in the UK. He is currently hot-glass technician at the prestigious Royal College of Art in London.

In 2009 Liam studied for an MA at the RCA in order to explore the creative possibilities of the medium of glassblowing. A large part of these studies took the form of an investigation into ways in which the historical techniques that he found so inspiring could be put into a contemporary context. He has demonstrated these techniques widely for public events, Universities and museums including the Victoria & Albert Museum in London.

Charles Stern worked at Anthony Stern Glass in Battersea before undergoing two years of factory glassblowing training at the Kosta Glass School in Småland, Sweden's glass making region. In 2010 he graduated with an MFA in Glass from Konstfack, University College for Art, Craft and Design Stockholm. He now runs WorkshopStern - an interdisciplinary studio that combines glass and ceramic design, teaching and research.

His work is concerned with materiality and how that term survives in response to digital media. Since 2010 his work has been executed within the context of artistic research and has been supported by institutions in Sweden and abroad. His clients and employers have included Konstfack, University College for Art, Craft and Design, The Royal Institute of Art Stockholm, The Glass Factory Boda and Beckmans College of Design. Support for projects has been furnished by The Swedish Arts Grants committee, The Anglo Swedish Society, Corning Museum of Glass and The City of Stockholm's Innovativ Kultur Fund.