

# VESSEL GALLERY

LONDON



**Elliot Walker (United Kingdom 1988 - )**

## **Surf**

Handblown and sculpted glass  
50 x 80 x 47 cm (19 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 31 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 18 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches)

'Surf' is from the British artist Elliot Walker's ongoing body of unique still life artworks.

Created in 2020 and unveiled by Vessel Gallery at [Collect](#) - The International Art Fair for Contemporary Craft and Design - 'Surf' was the largest and most ambitious still life artwork created by Walker. Instantly becoming a must-see and selling on the 1st day to a private collector. The artwork combines hand sculpted glass, concrete and PVC.

Combining exceptional glass making skills with a novelist's ability for storytelling, Walker literally sculpts his glass, creating artworks that are the essence of curiosity, inviting the viewer closer.

His 'Still Life' compositions have the poise of classical paintings. Symbols of domestic life are carefully balanced with the transient. Clear glass is given substance and presence yet coaxed to create ghostly counterparts of the real objects that Walker stylishly recreates. The dazzling and hypnotic shimmering PVC simply enhances what is above, a myriad of hues reflect, distort and permeate through this translucent landscape.

However, these colours, suggestive of life, do not emanate from the rigid and lifeless lobster and corals but are fleeting reflections that trick the viewer. Poignant and timely, this is Walker's stark warning for the endangered beauty, which for now, can still be found within our seas.

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

### **Artist description:**

Elliot Walker is one of the UK's finest glass artists and in his relatively short glass blowing career, has already become one of the most active and inspiring artists of his generation. After graduating in psychology from Bangor University, a daring decision saw Walker decide to pursue his creative interests instead.

With its vast spectrum of colour, texture and ability to mimic other materials, glass provides the ultimate palette for Walker to create his three-dimensional compositions and sculptures. As one of a handful of glassblowers in the world to focus solely on a technique called 'Massello', it takes extreme dexterity, speed and precise temperature control to sculpt and master the molten glass. Walker finds his medium captivating and challenging in equal measure; its immediacy and the intense relationship of working with it in its fluid state.

In his own words;

"The process of coaxing a complex form out of the liquid glass is unlike working with any other material. The pieces are not cast, carved or ground into shape, but modelled from a cooling liquid so that until the very last second the sculpture is a moving living entity, frozen in time as the glass sets"

As a psychology graduate, Walker approaches his making from many unorthodox directions, it is this ability to defy convention, to purposefully twist the viewer's perception, that has made his works so truly unique, instantly recognisable and highly sought after. In many ways his initial studies have remained a constant and continue to inform his artworks; each being aesthetically sensitive, crafted with exceptional skill and brought to life with a novelist's ability for storytelling.

After gaining a Masters Degree in Applied Arts from Wolverhampton University, Walker was awarded the Frederic Stuart Memorial Fund by the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers. He has exhibited extensively within the UK with his work represented within the Broadfield House Museum collections. His 'Uranium Requiem' artwork from his Half-Life collection resides within the permanent collections of Mus Verre Museum, France.

Most notably, Walker won the 2nd series of the Netflix programme Blown Away, being named "The Best in Glass" for 2021. Having beaten hundreds of many hugely talented hopefuls (artists for the first time selected from around the globe) to appear as one of the 10 contestants, Walker captivated with his sharp focus, wry humour, expansive imagination and relentless dedication throughout, making him the clear winner from the start.