



Wayne Charmer (United Kingdom 1979 -)

Echo I

'Echo I' is a unique glass sculpture created by the British artist, Wayne Charmer.

In the artist's own words;

"Echo I is the first sculpture from a new collection of cast glass forms that are inspired by the rare, hidden minerals shaped by both nature and the hand of man. These pieces explore the delicate tension between raw, textured surfaces and the smooth, polished finish that human intervention brings.

As with minerals that have been carefully polished and crafted, the process of shaping glass follows a similar rhythm, one of refinement and revelation. Each piece seeks to reveal how these contrasting elements of the rough and the smooth work in concert together, enhancing one another, inviting the viewer to touch and to feel; as one might experience from a time and weather-worn pebble, offering a quiet connection to the earth.

The journey to bring these forms to life has taken several years of dedication and experimentation. The process begins with the sketching of an idea, followed by sculpting the form in clay, which is then encased in a plaster and fibreglass shell. Once the mould has fully cured, the clay can be removed revealing the negative space of the intended shape. Glass is then carefully placed into the mould and fired in the kiln, undergoing weeks of transformation.

The process of cold-working the glass is painstaking, moving from rough grinding, through several stages, until finally achieving a polished surface. A slow, meditative progression that mirrors the natural forces that shaped the very minerals of inspiration."

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

Artist description:

For Charmer, the draw of glass is to exploit its translucent and reflective qualities. Inspired by nature, his signature techniques for his sculptural work are constructed from numerous hand-cut glass shards. Whilst heated for several days in the kiln, the sharp edges are softened resulting in layers of melted glass resembling petals and other organic forms.

In his own words:

"I immediately became attracted to working with glass during my time at university. I was drawn to the complex and challenging process of manipulating the material, which is solid in form when cool but becomes fluid whilst in the kiln. My aim is to capture this fluidity in the final cooling process and present these organic characteristics within my work. The glass undergoes many transformations whilst firing and the 'not knowing' aspect during this change is the attraction. Over the years I have developed a clearer understanding of the material yet I strive to develop new ways of working to explore and exploit the qualities of glass, which in turn, presents new obstacles to overcome, which retains my fascination with the medium."

Charmer has exhibited extensively throughout the UK and was awarded setting-up business grant by the Prince Trust Fund in 2002. In 2004 he received the Cockpit Arts Seedbed Award. He has work in the Turner Museum of Glass private collection.