

ROMAN

GLASS

R O M A N

G L A S S

Charles Ede
1 Three Kings' Yard
London
W1K 4JP
+44 20 7493 4944
info@charlesede.com
www.charlesede.com

In 2020, we began setting aside our favourite pieces of glass with the idea of putting on a small exhibition at some point in the next year or so. What started as a whim soon became an obsession, and five years later we have amassed over 150 items of glass, each possessing its own unique allure.

The exhibition *Roman Glass*, co-curated by Shane Connolly - florist and royal warrant holder, internationally acclaimed for his elegant, naturalistic floral design - celebrates the artistry and technical skill of ancient Roman glassblowing. His pairings of carefully selected glass with seasonal floral arrangements enhances the beauty of each piece, and emphasises its relevance as a functional work of art.

This catalogue contains 100 highlights from the exhibition. The shapes, colours and original uses of the glass are as varied and vibrant as the ancient culture that produced them.

CHARIS, JAMES AND MARTIN





“Exploring Charles Ede’s exquisite ancient Roman glass vessels and filling them with simple flowers - ones that the original owners might have known - has been an extraordinary experience. The combination of delicate ancient glass and fragile transient flowers has a sweet poignancy which transcends time. Through them we are somehow transported to another place and see these tiny ancient masterpieces with fresh eyes and even greater respect and wonder that they have survived centuries and millennia of change.”

SHANE CONNOLLY

HISTORY

OF

GLASS-BLOWING

The advent of Roman glassblowing marks one of the great technological achievements in human history. The invention of glass blowing around the 1st century BC revolutionised the production of glass, leading to a surge in the material's popularity and use. Before this, glass was shaped primarily by casting, cutting, and moulding; methods that were labour-intensive and limited in scope. However, once it was discovered how to get the furnaces hot enough so that the glass could be melted to such a viscosity that blowing it became possible, the glassmakers were able to create uniform, intricate and greatly varied pieces on a previously unknown scale. The light, brightly coloured vessels were quick and easy to produce, and their popularity throughout the Roman world soon saw them supersede traditional metal and pottery vessels.

The earliest evidence of glass blowing comes from the coastal areas of Syria, particularly around the Phoenician city of Sidon, in the eastern Mediterranean. The technique likely spread to the Roman Empire due to trade and cultural exchanges. At its zenith, it is believed that production reached into the tens of millions annually.

The Process of Glass Blowing

There is a distinct difference in the roles of glassmakers and glassworkers, whose workshops could often be hundreds of miles apart. Glassmakers handled the raw materials of sand (silica), alkali and lime, melting them in a kiln heated to 1100 degrees Fahrenheit to create chunks of unworked glass. This semi-finished product was then transported to glassworkers, who used a much cooler kiln—around 750 degrees Fahrenheit, comparable to the heat of a bread oven—to extract a ball of the molten mixture onto the end of a long hollow pipe. By blowing hard through the pipe the glass would inflate to create the walls of the vessel. It could then be worked using tools, such as shears and paddles, to shape and refine the piece, before any additional elements such as handles and applied decoration were added.

Most vessels were free-blown, but another popular technique involved blowing the blob of glass into a two- or three-part mould, which allowed sculptural designs to be created uniformly and en masse.

Roman glass was usually a 'natural' colour, meaning a shade of very pale green-blue, the exact shade varying depending on the chemical composition of the local sand that was used. When the glassmakers added manganese oxide to the sand the glass changed into a purple-aubergine colour, adding lead made it yellow, cobalt oxide made it a deep blue colour, and antimony oxide made the glass colourless.



Glass Decoration

The Romans were highly experimental with the techniques used to decorate their vessels. Two of the most common were marbling the glass before blowing, and the use of added trailing. The former was created by combining rods of coloured glass, melting and folding them several times, then blowing. The latter was created by adding a dab of glass to a vessel, then spinning the vessel quickly and drawing the implement with the added glass along the body, creating a spiral.

Applied decoration such as splattered flecks of solid glass, or added trailing, could be ‘marvered’ into the surface; a process which involved rolling the vessel along a flat surface whilst still malleable, so that the decoration is pushed into the glass and longer stands proud.

Ribbed vessels were created by either being blown into moulds, or by adding cut lengths of glass onto the surface of the body, then putting the vessel back into the furnace until the elements had fused together with the surface to become a single piece of glass.

A pontil mark can often be seen on the underside of a vessel, indicating a specific technique used to manipulate or decorate the piece. The glassblower attached a pontil rod to hold the partly formed vessel from the bottom whilst it was being worked. After the object was complete the rod was detached, leaving a small rough scar at the point of attachment.

Condition

Despite its age, much surviving ancient glass is remarkable for its exceptional condition. One form of corrosion that can occur is the formation of a layer of iridescence, caused by oxidation and the surface of the glass reacting to the burial conditions, formed over great lengths of time. This thin layer causes light to reflect, refract, and scatter in a way that produces a shimmering, rainbow-like effect on the surface of the glass. A variant creates a thick, pearl-like effect that is highly desirable. The surface texture of the glass, such as pitted areas caused by weathering, can amplify the visual effect and make it all the more attractive.

The Legacy of Glassblowing

Roman glass blowing was a groundbreaking invention that transformed the production of glass from a luxury item into an accessible and versatile material. The scale of production has meant that despite the great number of vessels that survive intact today, it is only a small percentage of the huge quantity created. The technological innovation, and the artistic advancements in decoration, left a lasting legacy that continues to influence modern glassmaking practices today; Louis Comfort Tiffany's highly sought after 'gold lustre' glass was the culmination of years of experimentation in glass production trying to emulate the iridescent glass of the ancient Romans, whilst the glassblowers of Murano to this day use many of the same techniques as those of the ancient Romans.



WORKS

“It is said that glass was first discovered by some merchants who, having landed on the coast of Syria, were preparing their meal and made a fire on the sand. They used blocks of natron (soda) to support their cooking pots, and when the fire heated the mixture of sand and natron, it produced a stream of a transparent liquid – the first glass.”

PLINY, NATURAL HISTORY, 36, 191



1. Patella cup
1st century AD
Height 3.1cm, diameter 6.3cm

2. Date flask
Mid 1st-early 2nd century AD
Height: 7.9cm

3. Hexagonal bottle
Mid-late 1st century AD
Height: 7.6cm

4. Moulded juglet
Mid-late 1st century AD
Height: 7.6cm



5. Marbled perfume flask
1st century AD
Height: 20.8cm





6. Amphoriskos
c.1st century AD
Height: 7.4cm

7. Tall amphoriskos
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 16.5cm

8. Amphoriskos
c.late 1st-early 2nd century AD
Height: 7.6cm

“At Rome, it is said that many discoveries are made both for producing the colours and for facility in manufacture...one can buy a glass beaker or drinking-cup for a copper.”

**STRABO, GEOGRAPHY,
BOOK 16, CHAPTER 2.25**



9. Bell-shaped unguentarium
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 15cm

10. Unguentarium
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 14.5cm

11. Indented beaker
Mid 1st-3rd century AD
Height: 7.8cm



12. Single-handled cup
3rd century AD
Height: 9.2cm

13. Ribbed bowl
Northern Italy,
1st century AD
Height: 6cm



14. Jug
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 14cm

15. Tall jug
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 21cm

16. Unguentarium
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 14.5cm

17. Amphoriskos
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 10cm



18. Marbled bottle
1st century AD
Height: 8.9cm

19. Marbled bottle
1st century AD
Height: 10.3cm

20. Marbled bottle
1st century AD
Height: 8.9cm





“We drink out of glass, Ponticus; you, out of porcelain.
Why? Lest a transparent vessel should betray the better
quality of your wine.”

MARTIAL, EPIGRAMS, 4.85 TO PONTICUS

21. Carinated beaker
with wheel-cut lines
c.1st century AD
Height: 10cm

22. Carinated beaker with wheel-cut lines
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 11.2cm

23. Decanter with wheel-cut lines
c.4th century AD
Height: 12.4cm

24. Amphora with
wheel-cut lines
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 22.9cm

25. Large unguentarium
with wheel-cut lines
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 15cm



26. Sprinkler with pinched feet
3rd-4th century AD
Height: 10.1cm

27. Sprinkler with vertical ribs
c.3rd century AD
Height: 10.1cm

28. Sprinkler with pinched ribs
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 10.7cm

29. Small jar
c.3rd-5th century
Height: 8cm

30. Sprinkler with pinched projections
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 7.9cm



31. Tall jug
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 26cm

32. Amphora
c.2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 17.9cm

33. Ribbed jug
c.late 3rd-4th century AD
Height: 22.5cm





34. Date flask
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 9.2cm

35. Perfume flask
2nd century AD
Height: 23.3cm

36. Trick bottle
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 12.8cm

“For making drinking vessels the use of glass has indeed
ousted metals such as gold and silver”

PLINY, NATURAL HISTORY, 36, 196



37. Large carafe
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 29cm

38. Cinerary urn
Late 1st-2nd century AD
Height: 17.5cm



39. Bottle with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 9.1cm

40. Bottle with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 8.9cm

41. Bottle with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 8.2cm





42. Dropper flask
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 13.3cm

43. Pipette-shaped flask
1st-3rd century AD
Height: 24.8cm

44. Lamp-filler
c.1st-2nd century AD
Height: 8.4cm

“The most highly valued glass is colourless and transparent,
as closely as possible resembling rock crystal”

PLINY, NATURAL HISTORY, 36, 197



45. Carinated beaker
3rd century AD
Height: 7.9cm

46. Diagonally ribbed beaker
c.4th-5th century AD
Height: 11.5cm

47. Beaker with wheel-cut lines
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 9.3cm



48. Jug with indented sides
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 15.5cm

49. Amphora with trailing
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 17.5cm

50. Bottle with ribbon handles
3rd-4th centuries AD
Height: 18.7cm

51. Bottle with ribbon handles
3rd-4th centuries AD
Height: 17.5cm



52. Moulded juglet
Mid-late 1st century AD
Height: 7.3cm

53. Ribbed bottle
1st century AD
Height: 6.7cm

54. Twin handled jar
4th century AD
Height: 9.6cm



55. Marbled spouted bottle
1st century AD
Height: 9.4cm

56. Cone-shaped lamp
c.4th-5th century AD
Height: 10.7cm

57. Four-sided aryballos
c.6th century AD
Height: 9.3cm





“You will forgive me if I say that personally I prefer glass;
glass at least does not smell. If it were not so breakable I
should prefer it to gold..”

PETRONIUS, SATYRICON, 50

58. Small bottle with pinched feet
c.1st century AD
Height: 9.1cm

59. Ovoid flask
c.4th-5th century AD
Height: 20cm

60. Flask with spherical body and trailing
4th century AD
Height: 17cm



61. Ribbed beaker
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 8.1cm

62. Carinated beaker
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 11.2cm

63. Beaker with rod-pushed base
c.3rd century AD
Height: 7.6cm

64. Miniature jar with rod-pushed base
4th-6th century AD
Height: 5.9cm



65. Marbled perfume flask

1st century AD

Height: 6.8cm

66. Unguentarium

c.1st-2nd century AD

Height: 8.4cm

67. Marbled bottle

1st century AD

Height: 8.7cm

68. Unguentarium

1st-3rd century AD

Height: 7.5cm

69. Unguentarium

1st century AD

Height: 8.8cm

70. Unguentarium

1st century AD

Height: 8.9cm

71. Unguentarium

1st century AD

Height: 8.7cm





“Some of it is shaped by blowing, some machined on a lathe and some chased like silver. Sidon was once famous for its glassworks, since, apart from other achievements, glass mirrors were invented there.”

PLINY, NATURAL HISTORY, 36, 192

72. Trefoil-lipped jug with trailing
4th century AD
Height: 11.7cm

73. Tankard
3rd-4th century AD
Height: 16.8cm

74. Trefoil-lipped bottle with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 7.3cm



75. Amphoriskos with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 11.9cm

76 Small jug with trailing
Late 1st century AD
Height: 14.6cm

77. Bottle with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 10.7cm



78. Jug with trailing
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 15cm

79. Square-sided jug
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 23.5cm

80. Jug
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 7.3cm





“There is, furthermore, opaque white glass and others that reproduce the appearance of fluorspar, blue sapphires or lapis lazuli, and, indeed, glass exists in any colour.”

PLINY, NATURAL HISTORY, 36, 196

81. Amphoriskos
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 8.4cm

82. Stemmed beaker
c.1st-3rd century AD
Height: 11.7cm

83. Goblet
c.4th-6th century AD
Height: 8.1cm



84. Marbled unguentarium
1st century AD
Height: 10.3cm



85. Twin-necked bottle
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 8.9cm,
diameter: 5.9cm

86. Marbled bottle
1st-3rd century AD
Height: 7.3cm

87. Double balsamarium
3rd-4th century AD
Height: 13cm

88. Grape flask
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 14.4cm

89. Janus-headed flask
c.2nd century AD
Height: 10.8cm



90. Beaker with wheel-cut lines
1st century AD
Height: 8.9cm

91. Hofheim cup
c. mid 1st century AD
Height: 7.3cm, diameter: 9.2cm

92. Stemmed beaker
4th-6th century AD
Height: 10.5cm



“There is no other material nowadays that is more pliable
or more adaptable, even to painting.”

PLINY, NATURAL HISTORY, 36, 196



93. Moulded amphoriskos
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 7.2cm

94. Pilgrim flask
4th century AD
Height: 13.5cm

95. Ribbed flask,
c.3rd century AD
Height: 7.7cm

96. Juglet
mid-late 1st century AD
Height: 7.3cm



97. Spherical unguentarium
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 8.4cm

98. Marbled flask
1st-3rd century AD
Height: 11cm

99. Spherical bottle
1st-3rd century AD
Height: 7.5cm

100. Flask with spiked projections
5th-6th century AD
Height: 6.2cm





DETAILS



1. Patella Cup
1st century AD
Height: 3.1cm, diameter: 6.3cm

Provenance
 Jack (1930-1996) and Jane (1936-2021)
 Weprin, New York, USA; acquired by 1991,
 thence by descent

Comparanda
 Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand: Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), pp.109-110, nos.137-140

Description
 Free-blown in opaque white glass. Fire-polished, rounded everted rim with a folded tubular flange creating a wide collar, the lower body convex and narrowing to the solid, pushed-in base ring. A small hole filled, some wear to the surface.



2. Date flask
Syro-Palestinian,
mid 1st-early 2nd century AD
Height: 7.9cm

Provenance
 Dr R.M. Lawrence, Los Angeles, California, USA; acquired 1964-1986
 Private collection, California, USA; by descent from their parents

Comparanda
 For the type compare C. Isings, *Roman Glass from Dated Finds* (Groningen/Djakarta, 1957), form 78b

Description
 Mould-blown in clear, pale purple glass in a two-part mould. The body resembling the rippled skin of a date, the short cylindrical neck with an out-turned and inward-folded mouth. Intact.

It is unusual to find a date flask in this colour.



3. Hexagonal bottle
Sidon,
mid-late 1st century AD
Height: 7.6cm

Provenance
 Summa Galleries Inc., New York, USA, 1981
 Private collection, New York, USA

Comparanda
 For the mould compare Yael Israeli, *Ancient Glass in the Israel Museum; the Eliahu Dobkin Collection and Other Gifts* (Jerusalem, 2003), nos.138 and 139, and for the colour *ibid.* no.140

Description
 Mould-blown in opaque, pale blue glass. The body was blown in a tripartite mould, rising from a low disc base with gadrooning above, each of the six sides take the form of a vertical panel, together forming an arcade, each arch containing a different bird perched on an unidentifiable object, a cylindrical neck with everted lip rises from a sloping shoulder on which are palmettes with in-turned leaves alternating with triangular leaves, rounded protrusions between the gables, the base moulded with concentric circles. Intact.



4. Moulded juglet
Sidon,
mid-late 1st century AD
Height: 7.6cm

Provenance
 Private collection, New York, USA; acquired prior to 1979

Comparanda
 For an example in purple glass compare Nina Kunina, *Ancient Glass in the Hermitage Collection* (St. Petersburg, 1997), cat.no.141

Description
 Mould-blown in opaque, cornflower-blue glass in a two-part mould. The ovoid body rises from a flat circular foot, a band of linked waves around the body bordered by pairs of horizontal lines, with vertical ribs above and below. The single handle drawn from the shoulder to the folded rim. Intact, the surface with iridescence.

This glass comes from the 'Sidonian' series. These were likely all made in Sidon, Syria, and date from the 1st-2nd century AD. They were blown into a two- or three-part mould and the seams formed are almost always visible.



5. Marbled perfume flask
Eastern Mediterranean or Italy,
1st century AD
Height: 20.8cm

Provenance

Sheppard & Cooper Ltd, London, UK; before February 1994
Anonymous Sale; Christie’s, London, 3rd July 1996
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above

Exhibited

Allard Pierson Museum of Antiquities, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, “Antiek Glas, de Kunst van Het Vuur”, 17th May-16th September 2001, exhibition no.36
Museum Dordts Patriciërshuis, Dordrecht, the Netherlands, “Glas Door de Eeuwen Heen”, 11th April-11th November 2018

Published

Sheppard & Cooper Ltd, *Glass. The Eighth Wonder of the Ancient World* (London, 1994), p.5, no.27
Christie’s, London, *Fine Antiquities*, 3rd July 1996, lot 280
J. v.d. Groen & H. van Rossum, *Romeins Glas uit Particulier Bezit* (Utrecht, 2011), p.64

Comparanda

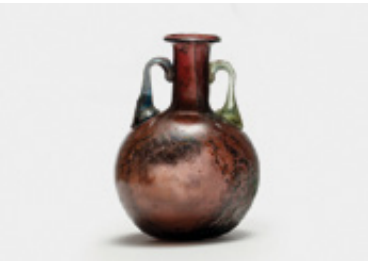
For an example in amber-yellow and opaque

white glass see Susan Matheson, *Ancient Glass in the Yale University Art Gallery* (Yale, 1980), no.65

Description

Free-blown in translucent pale blue and opaque white marbled glass. Of a particularly elegant form, this unguentarium, or alabastron, has a bubble-like body, with a long, drawn-out base terminating in a rounded point, the tall cylindrical neck with an everted rim. Intact.

This colour combination is extremely rare, even more so in this form. The vase would have contained a precious perfume.



6. Amphoriskos
c.1st century AD
Height: 7.4cm

Provenance

C.A. Hessing (d.1990s), the Netherlands; Private collection, the Netherlands; by descent from the above, their uncle
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above on the 11th December 2002, collection number 138

Published

Joop van der Groen and Hans van Rossum, *Romeins Glas uit Particulier Bezi* (Utrecht, 2011), p.97

Comparanda

For a variant see John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman Glass* (Toronto, 1975), nos.120-121

Description

Free-blown in translucent, purple-brown glass, with one green and one blue applied handle. The near-spherical body has handles drawn from the shoulder and attached halfway up the tall cylindrical neck, the lip everted. Small area of very light pitting to one side.



7. Tall amphoriskos
Eastern Mediterranean,
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 16.5cm

Provenance

Fortuna Fine Arts, New York, USA; prior to 1991
Anonymous Sale; Bonhams, London, 22nd September 1998
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, collection number 077

Exhibited

Thermenmuseum, Heerlen, the Netherlands, ‘Romeins Glas uit Particulier Bezit’, 29th April-28th August 2011, exhibition no.87

Published

Fortuna Fine Arts, *Shining Vessels: Ancient Glass from Greek, Roman and Islamic Times* (New York, 1991), no.142
Bonhams, London, *Antiquities*, 22nd September 1998, lot 247

Comparanda

Martine Newby Haspeslagh, *Ancient Glass from the Collection of Lord Michael Levy* (London, 2021), no.113

Description

Free-blown in clear blue-green glass. The body



8. Amphoriskos
c.late 1st-early 2nd
century AD
Height: 7.6cm

rising from an integral thickened foot with pontil mark, to a wide shoulder, the rim out-turned and inward-folded, a pair of pale green loop handles drawn from the wide shoulder to the bottom of the tall cylindrical neck. Intact.

Provenance

Kunsthandel Mieke Zilverberg, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, 27th October 1995

Comparanda

John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman Glass* (Toronto, 1975), no.122

Description

Free-blown in transparent, pale purple glass with applied opaque white handles. The thin-walled, spherical body has a slightly indented base, the short cylindrical neck with an out-turned and in-folded rim, and two applied opaque white glass handles drawn from the shoulder to beneath the lip. Intact, some wear to one handle.



9. Bell-shaped unguentarium
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 16.7cm

Provenance

Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.687

Comparanda

John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman Glass in the Royal Ontario Museum* (Toronto, 1975), no.499, p.126

Description

Free-blown in clear, colourless glass. The bell-shaped body with sides that flare outwards toward the flat base, shoulder rounded, tall cylindrical neck with overhanging, folded tubular rim. Small paper note found folded inside with illegible inscription and numbered ‘687’. Intact.



10. Unguentarium
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 14.1cm

Provenance

Dr and Mrs Rowland Campion; thence by descent, the underside has writing in black pen stating “ROMAN c.200 BC PALESTINE”, then covered in a thin layer of varnish.

Exhibitions

The Australian Institute of Archaeology, 1972

Comparanda

Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand; Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), no.355

Publications

For a discussion on the exhibition see *Buried History; A Quarterly Journal of Biblical Archaeology*, The Australian Institute of Archaeology, Vol.8 (September 1972), no.3

Description

Free-blown in a translucent, pale blue glass, the out-turned and inward-folded tubular rim flattened, cylindrical neck widening slightly toward the junction with the squat conical body, the base slightly concave. Intact, the surface with some slight pitting and patches of attractive purple iridescence.



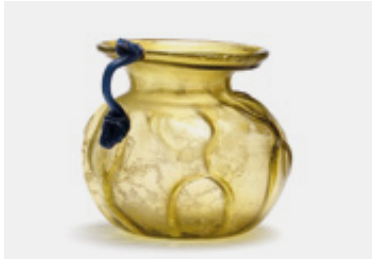
11. Indented beaker
Mid 1st-3rd century AD
Height: 7.8cm

Provenance
Anonymous sale; Sotheby's, London, 10th December 1996
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above

Published
Sotheby's, London, *Antiquities*, 10th December 1996, lot 13

Comparanda
Susan H. Auth, *Ancient Glass at the Newark Museum* (Newark, 1976), no.109

Description
Free-blown in transparent, colourless glass. Very thin-walled, the four squared-off sides pushed in to form indents, with a broken-off rim, and flattened base. Intact, some chips to the uneven rim.



12. Single-handled cup
3rd century AD
Height: 9.2cm

Provenance
Fortuna Fine Arts, Ltd, New York, USA
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above 15th January 2003, collection number 141

Published
Fortuna Fine Arts Ltd, *Glasses of Antiquity* (New York, 2002), no.95

Comparanda
For the form compare Susan H. Auth, *Ancient Glass at the Newark Museum* (Newark, 1976), no.106
See Fritz Fremersdorf, *Römische Gläser mit Fadenauflege in Köln, Die Denkmäler des Römischen Köln V* (Cologne, 1959), p.72, no.104, pl.III

Description
Free-blown in translucent, yellow-green glass with cobalt-blue glass handle and trail. The bulbous body has six pincer ribs each forming a figure-of-eight pattern, a band of cobalt-blue trail beneath the flared mouth, the blue glass handle drawn from the top of the body and



13. Ribbed bowl
Northern Italy,
1st century AD
Height: 6cm

Provenance
Otto Schäfer (1912-2000), Schweinfurt, Germany; acquired 1960s

Comparanda
Nina Kunina, *Ancient Glass in the Hermitage Collection* (St. Petersburg, 1997), no.206

Description
Blown from translucent, cobalt-blue glass with opaque white glass trail marvered into the body. The bowl has a bulbous body with thick ribs on the outer surface, short concave neck with a wide mouth and upward flaring broken-off rim ground down. Intact.

folded at the rim to form a thumb-rest, slight indentation to the base. Intact.

To create the figure-of-eight pattern, a typical decorative motif of glass production centred around Cologne, thick threads of glass were added to the surface then tooled into shape, and reheated so that they melted into the body of the glass and become one with it.

The dark blue handle on this example would suggest an earlier date, although one found in the cemetery along the Severin Strasse, Cologne, now in the Römisch-Germanisches Museum, is dated to the 3rd century AD.



14. Jug with brilliant iridescence
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 14cm

Provenance

Elie Bustros collection, Lebanon
 Antiquarium Ltd, New York, USA
 Private collection, USA; acquired from the above
 14th July 1995

Description

Free-blown in light blue glass. The surface now covered in brilliant iridescence, the body piriform body expands towards the slightly indented base, with a concave neck has an out-turned and inward-folded lip, a strap handle drawn up from the shoulder and folded before attached to the rim. Intact.



15. Tall jug with brilliant iridescence
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 21cm

Provenance

Antiquarium Ltd, New York, USA
 Private collection, USA; acquired from the above,
 1990

Comparanda

Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand: Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), no.246, pp.170-1

Description

Mould-blown in translucent, pale blue glass. The tall, cylindrical jug tapers slightly toward the base and has subtle vertical fluting to the body, a short, wide neck with out-turned and inward-folded lip, and a ribbed strap handle, drawn up from the shoulder and folded before attachment to the rim. Intact, the surface slightly pitted and with brilliant iridescence.



16. Unguentarium with iridescence
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 14.5cm

Provenance

Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.274

Comparanda

Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand: Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), no.355

Description

Free-blown in clear glass. The squat hemispherical body has a slightly pushed-in base, a tall cylindrical neck and out-turned and inward-folded lip. Old white rectangular collection label with '274' typed in black on the neck. Intact, the surface with minor pitting that is filled with a brilliant rainbow-like iridescence, and a thin layer of iridescence over the whole vessel.



17. Amphoriskos with brilliant iridescence
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 10cm

Provenance

Antiquarium Ltd, New York, USA
 Private collection, USA; acquired from the above,
 16th December 1992

Description

Free-blown in light blue-green glass. The storage jar has a spherical body and wide funnel mouth, the two strap handles looped from the top of the shoulder to beneath the everted rim. Intact, the surface covered in a brilliant rainbow-like iridescence, and areas of thick pearlescence, earthy deposits on the interior.



18. Marbled unguentarium

1st century AD

Height: 9.1cm

Provenance

Otto Schäfer (1912-2000), Schweinfurt, Germany; acquired 1960s

Comparanda

For the form compare Axel von Saldern, Birgit Nolte, Peter La Baume and Thea Elizabeth Haevernick, *Gläser der Antike, Sammlung Erwin Oppenländer* (Hamburg, 1974), no.354
For the colour compare David Whitehouse, *Roman Glass in the Corning Museum of Glass, Vol.II* (New York, 1997), no.768, p.206 illus.

Description

Free-blown in thick cobalt-blue and opaque white marbled glass. The wide, piriform body has a short cylindrical neck, and out-turned, inward-folded and flattened lip. Intact.



19. Marbled bottle

Eastern Mediterranean,

Early 1st century AD

Height: 10.8cm

Provenance

Private collection, England, UK; acquired c.1985
Soleimani Gallery, London, UK
Anonymous Sale; Boisgirard & Associés, Paris, 7th-9th June 2006
Charles Ede Ltd, London, UK; acquired 2006
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above on the 28th January 2008

Published

Boisgirard & Associés, Paris, France, *Arts d'Orient, Archéologie-Islam*, 7th-9th June 2006, lot 344

Comparanda

Susan Matheson, *Ancient Glass in the Yale University Art Gallery* (Yale, 1980), nos.67 and 71
For an example with a handle compare Véronique Arveiller-Dulong and Marie-Dominique, *Les Verres Antiques du Musée du Louvre, Vol.II* (Paris, 2005), no.820

Description

Free-blown in thick, translucent, dark purple and opaque white marbled glass. The rounded body has a near-horizontal shoulder, a cylindrical neck, and everted lip, the base slightly pushed in. Intact.



20. Marbled bottle

1st century AD

Height: 8.9cm

Provenance

Private collection; acquired 1960s

Comparanda

A. von Saldern, B. Nolte, P. La Baume and T.E. Haevernick, *Gläser der Antike, Sammlung Erwin Oppenländer* (Hamburg, 1974), no.354

Description

Free-blown in thick, translucent yellow and opaque white marbled glass. The wide, piriform body has a short cylindrical neck, and out-turned, inward-folded and flattened lip. Intact, one popped air bubble on the body.



21. Carinated beaker with wheel-cut lines

c.1st century AD

Height: 10cm

Provenance

Robin Symes, shown at the Buxton Antiques Fair, UK, April 1966
Mrs Traudi (1922-2013) and Professor Peter H. Plesch (1918-2013), Newcastle-under-Lyme, UK; acquired from the above, collection number AGh 10B
Their sale; Christie's London, 28th April 2009
Sheikh Saud Al-Thani (1966-2014), London, UK and Paris, France

Published

Christie's, London, *The Plesch Collection of Ancient Glass*, 28th April 2009, lot 6

Comparanda

Nina Kunina, *Ancient Glass in the Hermitage Collection* (St Petersburg, 1997), no.298, p.313

Description

Blown in transparent, colourless glass. The waisted beaker has concave walls creating an overhang which tapers sharply to a ring-shaped foot, the body decorated with three bands of wheel-cut lines, the lip everted and folded. Intact, very minor surface wear including minute pitting, and small surface chips on underside of base.



22. Carinated beaker with wheel-cut lines
c.1st-2nd century AD
Height: 11.2cm

Provenance

Anonymous Sale; Christie's, London, UK, 28th November 1979
Anonymous Sale; Sotheby's, London, UK, 10th December 1996
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, inventory number 046b

Published

Christie's, London, UK, *Fine Antiquities*, 28th November 1979, lot 14
Sotheby's, London, UK, *Antiquities*, 10th December 1996, lot 13

Description

Free-blown in transparent, colourless glass. The beaker has especially thin walls and is of waisted form, with concave sides and a wide, slightly thickened mouth which is mirrored by the wide base, the exterior decorated with bands of wheelcut lines. Intact, a particularly fine piece.



23. Decanter with wheel-cut lines
c.4th century AD
Height: 12.4cm

Provenance

Anonymous Sale; Christie's, London, 6th December 1972
Mrs Traudi (1922-2013) and Professor Peter H. Plesch (1918-2013), Newcastle-under-Lyme, UK; acquired from the above, collection number AGv. 14B
Their sale; Christie's, London, 28th April 2009
Sheikh Saud Al-Thani (1966-2014), London, UK and Paris, France; acquired from the above

Published

Christie's, London, *Antiquities*, 6th December 1972, lot 147
Christie's, London, *The Plesch Collection of Ancient Glass*, 28th April 2009, lot 4

Description

Free-blown in transparent, colourless glass. The conical body flares out markedly towards the wide flat base, the short cylindrical neck has an everted rim and outward flaring lip, the body and neck are



24. Amphora with wheel-cut lines
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 22.9cm

Provenance

Sheppard & Cooper, London, UK; acquired prior to 1994
C.A. Hessing, the Netherlands; collection no.37, with label on base, thence by descent to a niece
Anonymous Sale; Bonhams, London, 22nd September 1998, consigned from the above
Kunsthandel Mieke Zilverberg, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, 17th March 1999, collection number 083

Published

Sheppard & Cooper Ltd, *Glass. The Eighth Wonder of the Ancient World*, (London, 1994), p.9, no.50
Bonhams, London, *Antiquities*, 22nd September 1998, lot 216 (front cover)
Kunsthandel Mieke Zilverberg, *Archaeology-Ancient Coins* (Amsterdam, spring 1999), no.102
Joop van den Groen & Hans van Rossum, *Romeins Glas uit Particulier Bezit* (Utrecht, 2011), p.116

Description

Free-blown in transparent, light green glass. The



25. Large unguentarium
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 15cm

Provenance

Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.B9

Comparanda

Véronique Arveiller-Dulong and Marie-Dominique Nenna, *Les Verres Antiques du Musée du Louvre II* (Paris, 2005) no.725, p243

Description

Free-blown in clear, colourless glass. The squat body has convex sides with four narrow wheel-cut bands, wide base slightly pushed in, tall cylindrical neck with an everted lip folded over to create a thick rim. An old label inscribed, numbered and dated “B(or 5?).9 Arles/Trainquetaille/Mars 1875” attached to the base. Intact.



26. Sprinkler with pinched feet
3rd-4th century AD
Height: 10.1cm

Provenance

Found near Jerusalem, Israel
 Kaufmann’s Antiques, Tel Aviv, Israel
 Private collection, USA; acquired from the above in the 1960s-70s

Comparanda

Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand: Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), no.419, p.256

Description

Free-blown in, transparent green glass. The surface of the bulbous body is lightly decorated with swirling flutes, a row of pressed indentations decorates the shoulder, the neck is tightly constricted at the base and flares outwards to form a wide mouth, the rim of which is folded in two registers, the body stands on six pinched feet. Intact with some incrustation, mainly to the interior.



27. Sprinkler
c.3rd century AD
Height: 10.1cm

Provenance

Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.963

Comparanda

Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand: Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), p.93, no.109

Description

Blown in transparent, blue-green glass. The compressed globular body is decorated with subtle, raised fluting, a tight constriction at neck, the flaring mouth out-turned and inward-folded. Old oval white collection label with blue border, with ‘963’ in black ink on the body. Intact, a thick pearl-like iridescence to the interior.



28. Sprinkler with pinched ribs
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 10.7cm

Provenance

Art Market, Beirut, Lebanon
Hekmat and Madeleine Nassif, Monaco;
acquired from the above and exported in 1987

Comparanda

Susan H. Auth, *Ancient Glass at the Newark Museum* (Newark, 1976), p.120

Description

Free-blown in transparent, yellow-green glass. The pomegranate-like sprinkler flask has a spherical body decorated with five ribs and pinched projections, a small ring of projections forming the foot, a band of thick trail applied below the wide-flaring lip, tight internal constriction at the base of the neck. One foot projection restored.



29. Small jar
c.3rd-5th century
Height: 8cm

Provenance

19th century collection (as evidenced by old labels)
Private collection, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

Comparanda

Marianne Stern, et al., *Roman, Byzantine, and Early Medieval Glass: Ernesto Wolf Collection* (Berlin, 2001), no.116, p.229

Description

Free-blown in translucent, purple glass. The lower half of the near-spherical body is decorated with pinched ribs running upwards from the base, the smooth upper half narrowing to a short, wide, constricted neck, the funnel-shaped mouth is emphasised by a horizontal rib beneath an everted lip. 19th century red-edged octagonal paper collection label, with another label overlaid reading '84', and further inscribed in red paint either '6611' or '1199' on the base. Black-edged old oval paper label 'A42' to inside of rim. Intact, a thick pearl-like iridescence to the inside which has caused the glass to appear opaque rather than clear, and the colour deeper.



30. Sprinkler
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 7.9cm

Provenance

Private collection, USA
Anonymous sale; Sotheby's, New York, 13th December 1977, consigned by the above
Hans Benzian, Switzerland; acquired from the above
His sale; Sotheby's, London, 7th July 1994
Private collection, UK; acquired from the above
London art market, UK
Anonymous sale: Christie's, London, 3rd July 1996, consigned by the above
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, collection number 028a

Exhibited

Thermenmuseum, Heerlen, the Netherlands, "Romeins Glas uit Particulier Bezit", 29th April-28th August 2011, exhibition no.126

Published

Sotheby's, London, *The Benzian Collection of Ancient and Islamic Glass*, 7th July 1994, lot 124
Christie's, London, *Fine Antiquities*, 3rd July 1996, lot 309

Comparanda

E. Marianne Stern, *Roman, Byzantine, and*

Early Medieval Glass 10 BCE-700 CE: Ernesto Wolf Collection (Ostfildern-Ruit, 2001), p.248, cat.no.134

Description

Free-blown in translucent, amber-yellow glass. The pear-shaped body decorated with two rows of six pinched projections, the short cylindrical neck constricted at the base, the flared mouth with in-folded rim. Three of the pinched projections damaged at tips, otherwise intact.



31. Tall jug
Eastern Mediterranean,
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 26cm

Provenance
Sotheby's, London, 12th June 1997
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired
from the above, collection number 059

Exhibited
Museum Dordts Patriciërshuis, Dordrecht, the
Netherlands, 'Glas Door de Eeuwen Heen',
11th April-11th November 2018

Published
Sotheby's, London, *Antiquities including
Western Asiatic Antiquities and Cylinder Seals
from the Erlennmeyer Collection (Part II)*, 12th
June 1997, lot 246

Comparanda
For a similar example, but with a single band
of added trail around the neck, compare
Susan H. Auth, *Ancient Glass at the Newark
Museum* (Newark, 1976), no.121

Description
Free-blown in clear, blue-green glass. The elegant
jug has a bulging lower body that tapers before
flaring again to create the mouth, a ribbed strap
handle, the conical foot with pontil mark. Intact.



32. Amphora
Western Empire,
c.2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 17.9cm

Provenance
The Property of a Lady; Bonhams, London,
22nd April 1999
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired
from the above, collection number 084

Published
Bonhams, London, *Antiquities*, 22nd April
1999, lot 205

Description
Free-blown in transparent pale green glass. The
large ovoid body set on an applied conical base-
ring with tooling and a pontil mark, the short
cylindrical neck has a flared mouth, the strap
handles with central rib are folded at the rim to
form thumb-rests. Intact.



33. Ribbed jug
c.late 3rd-4th century AD
Height: 22.5cm

Provenance
Private collection, USA; acquired 1970s
Canadian art market;
Christie's, New York, 7th December 2006
Private collection, the Netherlands;
acquired from the above, collection number 199

Published
Christie's, New York, *Antiquities*, 7th December
2006, lot 8

Description
Free-blown in translucent, yellow-green glass.
The tall ovoid body has seven added vertical
ribs, rising to a slightly concave funnel-mouth,
a strap-handle attached from the shoulder to
the underside of the lip, set on an applied base
with pontil mark. Intact.



34. Date flask
Syro-Palestinian,
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 9.2cm

Provenance
Dr. Eugene Elovic, Miami, USA; exported to
Israel

Comparanda
Martine Newby Haspeslagh, *Ancient Glass
from the Collection of Lord Michael Levy*
(London, 2021), no.44

Description
Mould-blown in translucent, amber-yellow glass.
The body imitates the form of a date, the short
neck leads to an out-turned and inward-folded
rim. Intact, a small crack to the lip and another
on the body.

*It is believed that moulds were taken from
real dates in order to make these flasks so
realistic. They were exclusively produced in
the Syro-Palestinian area. This is a particularly
large example.*



35. Perfume flask
2nd century AD
Height: 23.3cm

Provenance

Private collection, UK; acquired prior to 1980

Comparanda

Susan Auth, *Ancient Glass at the Newark Museum* (Newark, 1976), no.140

Description

Free-blown in translucent, rich amber-coloured glass. The slender phial has a peg-base formed of solid glass, resembling a drop of honey, translucent body bulges slightly and narrows to a thin, elongated, cylindrical neck with a horizontal flaring lip. The top part of the flute and lip recomposed, with a small area of restoration.



36. Trick bottle
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 12.8cm

Provenance

Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.183

Comparanda

For an example is green glass compare Charles Ede, *Roman Glass XIII* (London, 1988), no.19

Description

Mould-blown in translucent, amber-yellow glass. The hemispherical body has a deeply concave base pushed in close to the external walls, creating an extremely confined internal space, the tall neck is slightly pinched at the base and has a flaring, inward-folded lip, a pontil mark on the underside. Old white rectangular collection label with '183' typed in black was on the body, but now missing. A crack to the lip, otherwise intact.

This very rare form was perhaps a 'trick' vessel designed to deceive as to the quantity of the contents.



37. Large carafe
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 29cm

Provenance

Anonymous Sale; Christie's, London, 6th December 1972
Mrs Traudi (1922-2013) and Professor Peter H. Plesch (1918-2013), Newcastle-under-Lyne, UK; acquired from the above, collection number AGv 29
Their sale; Christie's, London, 28th April 2009
Sheikh Saud Al-Thani (1966-2014), London, UK and Paris, France; acquired from the above

Published

Christie's, London, *Antiquities*, 6th December 1972, lot 158
Christie's, London, *The Plesch Collection of Ancient Glass*, 28th April 2009, lot 33

Description

Free-blown in translucent, light yellow-green glass. The large vessel has a globular body with a flat shoulder and tall funnel neck, the body decorated with raised vertical flutes, slightly indented base. Intact.



38. Cinerary urn
Late 1st-2nd century AD
Height: 17.5cm

Provenance

Private collection, France; acquired prior to 1975, thence by descent

Comparanda

Martine Newby and Dolf Schut, *The Fascination of Ancient Glass* (Lochem, 1999), no.53

Description

Free-blown in translucent, light blue-green glass. The large, ovoid body has a slightly pushed-up base, the horizontal lip folded out and under. Intact.

Jars such as this were made in natural-coloured glass and were most prolific during the later first and throughout the second centuries AD. Their production was centred around the Western Empire, in modern day France. They were used as storage jars for household food and goods, and many were then reused as cinerary urns. The lip's overhang allowed for a piece of cloth to be tied tight over the opening, acting as a lid, and when used as cinerary urns this was replaced with a lead lid.



39. Bottle with trailing
Eastern Mediterranean,
1st century AD
Height: 9.1cm

Provenance

Art market, London, UK
Charles Ede Ltd, London, UK; acquired
from the above 13th September 1989
Margaret Janet Bourne, Surrey, UK; acquired
from the above 10th December 1990

Comparanda

Susan Matheson, *Ancient Glass in the Yale University Art Gallery* (Yale, 1980), no.74

Description

Free-blown in translucent, cobalt-blue glass with opaque white trailing. The latter decorates the spherical body with fine spiral trailing that continues halfway up the tall neck, the lip splayed and inward-folded. The tip of the neck reattached, a minute area of infill to the lip, some of the trailing worn.



40. Bottle with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 8.9cm

Provenance

Private collection, London, UK; acquired 1983

Comparanda

For the form compare John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman Glass in the Royal Ontario Museum* (Toronto, 1975), no.113, and Susan Matheson, *Ancient Glass in the Yale University Art Gallery* (Yale, 1980), no.74

Description

Free-blown in clear, bright yellow glass, with white glass decoration. The spherical body tapers towards the tall cylindrical neck, and is decorated with a continuous trail of opaque white glass, out-turned and inward-folded lip. Intact, some small areas of trail worn away.



41. Bottle with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 8.2cm

Provenance

Hirachi, Beirut, Lebanon
Faustus Fine Art, London, UK; acquired from
the above, 1985, stock number A2435
Tony Eastgate, London, UK; acquired from
the above 9th March 1985, thence by descent
John Eastgate, London, UK; by descent from
the above in 2007
Charles Ede Ltd, London, UK; acquired from
the above 2016
Private collection, New York, USA;; acquired
from the above 2018

Comparanda

John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman Glass in the Royal Ontario Museum* (Toronto, 1975), no.113; and Axel von Saldern, Gläser der Antike; *Sammlung Erwin Oppenländer* (Hamburg, 1974), nos.646 & 648

Description

Free-blown in translucent, purple-brown glass. The spherical body is decorated with fine spiral trailing in opaque white, continuing halfway up the tall neck, the lip splayed and inward-folded. Intact, a minute loss to trailing at the top, restored.



42. Dropper flask
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 13.3cm

Provenance

Gil Chaya, Biblical Antiquities, Jerusalem, Israel
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired
from the above, 5th January 2005, collection
number 176

Exhibited

Thermenmuseum, Heerlen, the Netherlands,
‘Romeins Glas uit Particulier Bezit’, 29th April-
28th August 2011, exhibition no.272

Comparanda

Susan H. Auth, *Ancient Glass at the Newark Museum* (Newark, 1976), no.151

Description

Free-blown in clear blue-green glass. The pale blue body pinched in the centre to form four vertical side tubes and a larger central opening in between two near-spherical chambers, a pair of clear blue-green handles drawn from the shoulder and folded vertically at the rim to create thumb rests, the lip out-turned and folded. Intact, iridescence in the pitting on the inner surface of the lower chamber.



43. Pipette-shaped flask
1st-3rd century AD
Height: 24.8cm

Provenance

Anonymous Sale; Sotheby's, London, 8th May 1978
Christopher Sheppard, London, UK
Mrs Traudi (1922-2013) and Professor Peter H. Plesch (1918-2013), Newcastle-under-Lyme, UK; acquired from the above 1978, collection number AGv. 25C
Their sale; Christie's, London, 28th April 2009
Sheikh Saud Al-Thani (1966-2014), London, UK and Paris, France; acquired from the above

Published

Sotheby's, London, *Antiquities and Tribal Art*, 8th May 1978, lot 229
Christie's, London, *The Plesch Collection of Ancient Glass*, 28th April 2009, lot 48

Comparanda

The British Museum refers to this form as pipette-shaped; see an example in their collection, GR 1889.8-2.1

Description

Free-blown in transparent, colourless glass. The flask has a long conical neck, the body bulging in the middle creating a lozenge-shaped

silhouette, the elongated lower body tapering to the thick, rounded base, the everted rim with inward-folded lip. Intact.



44. Lamp-filler
c.1st-2nd century AD
Height: 8.4cm

Provenance

Daniel M. Friedenberg (1923-2011), Portland, Oregon, USA
Howard S. Rose Gallery, New York, USA, Arte Primitivo, 14th October 2003
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, collection number 156

Exhibited

Museum Dordts Patriciërshuis, Dordrecht, The Netherlands, "Glas Door de Eeuwen Heen", 11th April-11th November 2018

Published

Howard S. Rose Gallery, New York, USA, Arte Primitivo, 14th October 2003, lot 318

Comparanda

John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman Glass in the Royal Ontario Museum* (Toronto, 1975), p.195, no.118

Description

Free-blown in transparent pale blue-green glass. The small, bird-shaped flask has an ovoid body pulled out on one side to form a 'tail' or tapering spout, a pinched 'crest' along

the top of the body, the cylindrical neck with an inward-folded lip. Intact, many air-bubbles through the glass.

Though often described as 'feeders', such vessels were most likely used to fill oil lamps.



45. Carinated beaker
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 7.9cm

Provenance

Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.247

Comparanda

David Whitehouse, *Roman Glass in the Corning Museum of Glass, Vol.I* (New York, 1997), no.387, p.228

Description

Blown in exceptionally thin, near colourless, transparent glass. The tall body with concave walls and carinated profile rises from a base with rounded profile to a wide mouth with everted lip and a thickened and rounded rim. Intact.



46. Diagonally ribbed beaker
Western Empire,
c.4th-5th century AD
Height: 11.5cm

Provenance

Private collection, the Netherlands; sold 1996 Anonymous Sale; Bonhams, London, 22nd September 1998
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, collection number 079

Exhibited

Thermenmuseum, Heerlen, the Netherlands, 'Romeins Glas uit Particulier Bezit', 29th April-28th August 2011, exhibition no.62

Published

Kunsthandel M. Zilverberg, *Archaeology - Ancient Coins* (Amsterdam, 1996), no.125
 Bonhams, London, *Antiquities*, 22nd September 1998, lot 260

Description

Free-blown in translucent, pale blue glass. The beaker has a slightly everted and fire blasted rim, the straight sides tapering towards the base, the body decorated with twelve diagonal ribs applied and melted into the surface, pontil mark to underside. Intact.

This type comes from the Western Empire, and probably, more specifically, the Rhineland.



47. Beaker with wheel-cut lines
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 9.3cm

Provenance

Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.353

Comparanda

Sotheby's, London, *The Constable-Maxwell Collection of Ancient Glass*, 4th-5th June 1979, no.232

Description

Free-blown in clear, amber-yellow glass. The walls are nearly straight-sided, with a slight constriction beneath the broken-off, uneven rim, wheel-cut lines decorate the body, the base with shallow indentation. Old white rectangular collection label with '353' typed in black on the body. Intact.



48. Jug with indented sides
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 15.5cm

Provenance

Kunsthandel Mieke Zilverberg, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above 27th October 1995, collection number 605

Description

Free-blown in translucent, purple-brown glass, with a clear light green handle. The latter has been drawn from the base of the cylindrical neck and folded onto the edge of the lip, creating a thumb rest, the wide, flaring lip inward-folded, body with high shoulder and a series of narrow vertical indentations, pontil mark to indented base. Intact.



49. Amphora with trailing
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 17.5cm

Provenance

Pars Antiques, London, UK
Charles Ede Ltd, London, UK; acquired from the above 14th July 1997
Paul E. Cuperus, Laren, the Netherlands; acquired from the above 18th March 2000
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above on the 18th August 2015, collection number 316

Published

Charles Ede Ltd, *Ancient Glass XIX* (London, 1999), no.31
Paul Cuperus, *The Paul E. Cuperus Collection* (2009), no.PEC 036

Description

Free-blown in transparent, pale blue-green glass with applied opaque red trail. The latter has been trailed around the upper part of the cylindrical neck, the ovoid body is set on a tubular ring base with pontil mark, a pair of handles drawn from the shoulder to the lower part of the neck, in line with where the trailing stops, with funnel mouth with inward-folded rim. Intact, trailing in area between the handles is broken away.



50. Bottle with ribbon handles
Syro-Palestinian,
3rd-4th centuries AD
Height: 18.7cm

Provenance

Private collection, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

Comparanda

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA, acc.no.X.21.201.
Also see Nina Kunina, *Ancient Glass in the Hermitage Collection* (St. Petersburg, 1997), no.405

Description

Free-blown in translucent, deep yellow glass, with applied moss-green handles. The elegant, elongated piriform body rises from an applied foot which spreads out and slightly downward. Towards the bottom of the cylindrical neck, which flares to a wider mouth, are two applied handles, their contrasting-coloured glass runs down either side of the body in two pinched ribbons, pontil mark to the base. Intact, some iridescence to the interior.



51. Bottle with ribbon handles
Syro-Palestine,
3rd-4th centuries AD
Height: 17.5cm

Provenance

Found at Beth Gibrin, Palestine
Lt. Gen. A.H.L.F. Pitt-Rivers; acquired 1988-1989
George Henry Lane-Fox Pitt-Rivers (1890-1966), Dorset, UK; by descent from the above
Anonymous Sale; Sotheby's, London, 22nd December 1965
Mrs Traudi (1922-2013) and Professor Peter H. Plesch (1918-2013), Newcastle-under-Lyme, UK; acquired from the above, collection number AGv 17C
Their sale; Christie's, London, *The Plesch Collection of Ancient Glass*, 28th April 2009
Sheik Saud Al-Thani (1966-2014), London, UK and Paris, France; acquired from the above

Exhibited

The Pitt Rivers Museum, Dorset, UK

Published

Catalogue of Objects Collected by General Pitt Rivers from 1898-1899, Vol.9, p.2269
Sotheby's, London, UK, *Catalogue of Egyptian, Western Asiatic, Greek, Etruscan and Roman Antiquities, African, American, Oceanic and Indian Sculpture*, 22nd December 1965, lot 121

Christie's, London, UK, *The Plesch Collection of Ancient Glass*, 28th April 2009, lot 3

Comparanda

Nina Kunina, *Ancient Glass in the Hermitage Collection* (St. Petersburg, 1997), nos.404-405

Description

Free-blown in clear pale green glass with turquoise-blue handles. The elongated, piriform body has a pair of applied blue 'frilled' trails running vertically down either side of the body beneath the small ring handles, the tall cylindrical neck has an outward-flared mouth with inward-folded tubular rim, the flask is set on a flaring circular foot with concave base and pontil mark. Ink on the base reads 'Beth Gibrin, Palestine...'. Intact.



52. Moulded juglet
Sidon,
Mid-late 1st century AD
Height: 7.3cm

Provenance

Jacques Schulman B.V., Amsterdam, 1982
 Mr. T. Claus and Mrs. L.W. Claus-Lievense,
 Capelle aan den IJssel, the Netherlands;
 acquired from the above, 16th October 1982,
 no.AR 23
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired
 from the above 11th February 2017,
 collection number 355

Published

Jacques Schulman B.V., Amsterdam, the
 Netherlands, *Catalogue* 223, no.59

Comparanda

For an example in purple glass compare
 Nina Kunina, *Ancient Glass in the Hermitage
 Collection* (St. Petersburg, 1997), cat.no.141

Description

Mould-blown in clear, bright yellow glass
 with an olive-green handle. The body formed
 in a two-part mould, the single handle drawn
 from the shoulder to the folded rim, the
 bulbous body rises from a flat circular foot,
 a band of linked waves around the body

bordered by pairs of horizontal lines, with
 vertical ribs above and below. Intact.

*This glass comes from the ‘Sidonian’ series.
 These were likely all made in Sidon, Syria,
 and date from the 1st-2nd century AD. They
 were blown into a two- or three-part mould
 and the seams that were formed are almost
 always visible.*



53. Ribbed bottle
1st century AD
Height: 6.7cm

Provenance

Jack (1930-1996) and Jane (1936-2021)
 Weprin, New York, USA; acquired by 1995,
 thence by descent

Comparanda

Susan Matheson, *Ancient Glass in the Yale
 University Art Gallery* (Yale, 1980), no.73

Description

Free-blown in translucent cobalt-blue glass.
 The near spherical body with a series of
 pinched vertical ribs, a cylindrical neck and
 out-turned, inward-folded lip, with a thickened,
 raised circular base. Intact, the interior with
 pearlescence and the exterior with areas of
 attractive iridescence.



54. Twin handled jar
Eastern Mediterranean,
4th century AD
Height: 9.6cm

Provenance

Found near Ashkelon, southern Israel
 Archaeological Shop, Tel Aviv Hilton, Israel
 Mr Curt and Dr Fleur Strand, New York
 City, New York, and Snowmass Village,
 Colorado, USA; acquired from the above,
 10th January 1968

Comparanda

For a variant, without the handles, compare
 Marianne Stern, *Roman, Byzantine and
 Early Medieval Glass* (Ostfildern-Ruit, 2001),
 pp.230-1, no.117

Description

Free-blown in clear, bright yellow glass with
 applied turquoise-blue trailing and handles.
 The squat body has subtle vertical ribs and
 two bands of applied trailing, the handles
 drawn up from the shoulder and folded before
 being attached to the rim, the funnel mouth
 has an open, projecting roll. Intact.



55. Marbled spouted bottle
1st century AD
Height: 9.4cm

Provenance

Private collection, Scotland; acquired mid-late 20th century

Comparanda

For an example of purple and white marbled body compare Véronique Arveiller-Dulong and Marie-Dominique Nenna, *Les Verres Antiques du Musée du Louvre, Vol.II* (Paris, 2005), no.820

Description

Free-blown from thick, translucent, dark purple and opaque white marbled glass. The squat body has a wide shoulder, indentation to the base, and a tall neck with diagonally angled spout. Intact, a pressure crack on the lower part of the body, some wear to the surface.



56. Cone-shaped lamp
c.4th-5th century AD
Height: 10.7cm

Provenance

Joseph Maudslay, Esq. (c.1880-1954); acquired between 1903-1906
The Property of the late Joseph Maudslay Esq; Sotheby's, London, 14th November 1966
Dr R.M. Lawrence, Los Angeles, California, USA; acquired from the above
Private collection, California, USA; by descent from the above

Joseph Maudslay was General Superintendent in charge of the construction of the Assuan-Luxor Railway Line, (1903-1906). The headquarters were at Minia, where he shared a house with Mr Howard Carter. This vessel was collected during this period.

Published

Sotheby's, London, *Irish Bronze Age, Egyptian, Western Asiatic, Greek, Etruscan and Roman Antiquities*, 14th November 1966, lot 55

Comparanda

David Whitehouse, *Roman Glass in the Corning Museum of Glass, Vol.I* (New York,



57. Four-sided aryballos
c.6th century AD
Height: 9.3cm

Provenance

Christopher Sheppard, London, UK
Mrs Traudi (1922-2013) and Professor Peter H. Plesch (1918-2013), Newcastle-under-Lyne, UK; acquired from the above in 1982, collection number AGv 9hF
Their sale: Christie's, London, 28th April 2009
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, collection number 229

Published

Christie's, London, *Antiquities Including the Plesch Collection of Ancient Glass*, 28th April 2009, lot 13

Comparanda

J. Paul Getty Museum, California, USA, acc. no.71.AF.80

Description

Free-blown in transparent, deep amber-coloured glass. The body indented on four sides to create a square-shaped flask decorated around the middle with a hollow tubular flange, tooled out of the vessel's wall, a pair of handles drawn from just below the short neck, and attached to the flattened tubular lip, pontil mark to the underside. Intact.



58. Small bottle with pinched feet
c.1st century AD
Height: 9.1cm

Provenance

Sasson Ancient Art, Jerusalem, Israel
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above 16th January 2011, inventory number NFB 261

Comparanda

For an example with three pinched feet compare Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand: Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), no.320

Description

Free-blown in translucent, brilliant cobalt-blue glass. The bottle has thin walls and three delicate feet which are pinched out and flattened, the body bulging then tapering to a slight constriction before the short cylindrical neck with flaring folded lip. A section of the lip reattached.



59. Ovoid flask
c.4th-5th century AD
Height: 20cm

Provenance

Paul E. Cuperus, Laren, the Netherlands
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above on the 29th June 2004, collection number 169

Comparanda

Susan H. Auth, *Ancient Glass at the Newark Museum* (Newark, 1976), no.157

Description

Free-blown in transparent, pale blue glass. The ovoid body has a tall cylindrical neck and funnel mouth, set on a flared foot with tubular edge. Intact.



60. Flask with spherical body and trailing
4th century AD
Height: 17cm

Provenance

R.J.H. Ramselaar, Blaricum, the Netherlands
 Mrs Elias-Vaes, the Netherlands; acquired prior to 1970
 Her sale; Christie's, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 27th, 28th and 29th April 2010
 Sheikh Saud Al-Thani (1966-2014), London, UK and Paris, France

Exhibited

Historisch Museum, Rotterdam, the Netherlands, 'Bezeten Bezit, Keuzetentoonstelling uit de verzameling van Mevrouw W.G. Elias-Vaes te Rotterdam', 18th April-1st August 1970, no.790

Published

Historisch Museum, Bezeten Bezit, Keuzetentoonstelling uit de verzameling van Mevrouw W.G. Elias-Vaes te Rotterdam, exhibition catalogue (Rotterdam, 1970), no.790
 Christie's, Amsterdam, *Twenty Rooms: The Private Collection of the late Mrs Elias-Vaes*, 27th, 28th and 29th April 2010, lot 77

Comparanda

Susan H. Auth, *Ancient Glass at the Newark*

Museum (Newark, 1976), no.157

Description

Free-blown in transparent, colourless glass with applied cobalt-blue decoration. The spherical body has a tall, cylindrical neck and a wide funnel mouth which is decorated with fine, cobalt-blue applied spiral trailing, the flask set on a tubular foot with pushed up base. Intact.



61. Ribbed beaker
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 8.1cm

Provenance

Anonymous Sale; Sotheby's, London, UK, 10th December 1996
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, inventory number 046f

Published

Sotheby's, London, UK, *Antiquities*, 10th December 1996, lot 13

Comparanda

Compare an example from the Rhineland in John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman Glass in the Royal Ontario Museum*, (Toronto, 1975), no.644, p.155 and 226, pl.40

Description

Free-blown in transparent, bright blue glass. The beaker is of biconical form, with thickened rim, the body decorated with thirteen perpendicular pinched projections or ribs, the form tapering to a small base from a shoulder which runs through the most pronounced point of the ribs. Intact.



62. Carinated beaker
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 11.2cm

Provenance

Private collection of T.S.
 Private collection of M.W., USA; acquired 1980s

Comparanda

Sotheby's, London, *The Constable-Maxwell Collection of Ancient Glass*, 4th-5th June 1979, no.230

Description

Free-blown in exceptionally thin, transparent, colourless glass. The tall body with concave walls and carinated profile rises from a slightly rounded base to a wide mouth with everted lip and a thickened and rounded rim. Intact.



63. Beaker with rod-pushed base
c.3rd century AD
Height: 7.6cm

Provenance

Anonymous Sale; Christie's, London, 28th November 1979
 Anonymous Sale; Sotheby's, London, 10th December 1996
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, inventory number 046e

Published

Christie's, London, *Fine Antiquities*, 28th November 1979, lot 12
 Sotheby's, London, *Antiquities*, 10th December 1996, lot 13

Comparanda

David Whitehouse, *Roman Glass in the Corning Museum of Glass*, (New York, 1997), no.425, p.249

Description

Free-blown in transparent, olive-green glass. The beaker has thin walls making it especially light, the top pinched in before thickening at the rim and flaring outward and upward, the straight walls curving sharply into a narrow base, the bottom pushed in with a rod. Intact, the surface is particularly clear.



64. Miniature jar with rod-pushed base
4th-6th century AD
Height: 5.9cm

Provenance

Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.54

Comparanda

For the form compare David Whitehouse, *Roman Glass in the Corning Museum of Glass, Vol.I* (New York, 1997), nos.288, 289 and no.291 for the rod-pushed base

Description

Free-blown in clear, blue glass. The globular body has a base that has been sharply pushed up with a rod, the wide, flaring mouth is folded. Old label with "Le Faux vers 1935" in lead pencil. Intact, some black-brown staining in the air pockets.

It has been suggested that this form was used as a suction cup; a form of holistic treatment used in the ancient world, as it still is today.



65. Marbled perfume flask
1st century AD
Height: 6.8cm

Provenance

Private collection of V.S., Berlin, Germany;
 formed in the 1980s

Description

Free-blown in deep cobalt-blue and opaque white marbled glass. The narrow neck leads to a flared, inward-folded lip, the near-spherical body has a slightly flattened base. Intact, with very light iridescence on the surface, minor pitting around the lip.



66. Unguentarium
c.1st-2nd century AD
Height: 8.4cm

Provenance

Mr Walther Becker, Germany
 Private collection, Germany;
 by descent from the above

Comparanda

For the colour compare Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand; Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), no.337 and for the form see no.338

Description

Free-blown in translucent, emerald-green glass. The bottle is thick-walled, the piriform body has a slight constriction before the tall cylindrical neck, the flaring rim folded inwards. A small chip from the lip.



67. Marbled bottle
1st century AD
Height: 8.7cm

Provenance

Dr Ernst Begner, Basel, Switzerland;
 acquired 1970s
 Frank Sternberg, Zurich, Switzerland;
 acquired 1992

Comparanda

Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand; Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), no.308

Description

Free-blown in translucent cobalt-blue and opaque white marbled glass. Near spherical body, tall neck tapering slightly towards the flaring, inward-folded lip, the base slightly pushed in. Intact.



68. Unguentarium
1st-3rd century AD
Height: 7.5cm

Provenance

Art market, France
 M. Lottmann, Paris, France; acquired from the above in the 1960s-70s

Description

Free-blown in clear, bright yellow glass. The piriform body with rounded base rises to a narrow tubular neck, the everted lip has a broken-off rim, base slightly flattened. A pressure crack to one side.



69. Unguentarium
1st century AD
Height: 8.9cm

Provenance
 J. Mazard, France, the Bahamas and USA;
 acquired 1980s

Comparanda
 Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand; Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012) p.220-221, nos.342-345

Description
 Free-blown in translucent, cobalt-blue glass. The piriform body has a slight pinch at the conjunction with the tall cylindrical neck, the lip out-turned and inward-folded, a pontil mark on the underside of the slightly flattened base. Intact, the surface with some slight iridescence.



70. Unguentarium
1st century AD
Height: 8.8cm

Provenance
 J. Mazard, France, the Bahamas and USA;
 acquired 1980s

Comparanda
 Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand; Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), p.220-221, nos.342-345

Description
 Free-blown in translucent, light cobalt-blue glass. The piriform body, has a slight pinch at the conjunction with the tall cylindrical neck, the lip out-turned and inward-folded, a pontil mark on the underside of the slightly flattened base. Intact, the surface with some slight iridescence.



71. Unguentarium
1st century AD
Height: 8.7cm

Provenance
 J. Mazard, France, the Bahamas and USA;
 acquired 1980s

Comparanda
 Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand; Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), p.220-221, nos.342-345

Description
 Free-blown in translucent, cobalt-blue glass. The piriform body has a slight pinch at the conjunction with the tall cylindrical neck, the lip out-turned and inward-folded, a pontil mark on the underside of the slightly flattened base. Intact, the surface with some slight iridescence.



72. Trefoil-lipped jug with trailing
4th century AD
Height: 11.7cm

Provenance
 Art market, France
 M. Lottmann, Paris, France; acquired from the above in the 1960s-70s

Comparanda
 Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand; Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), nos.253-257

Description
 Free-blown in clear, light green-blue glass. The slightly compressed spherical body decorated with a continuous spiral of applied trailing, a strap handle applied at the shoulder and drawn up to the back edge of the lip, with an upraised thumb-rest above the edge of the thickened rim of the trefoil lip. Intact, some small areas of incrustation and iridescence.



73. Tankard
3rd-4th century AD
Height: 16.8cm

Provenance
 Art market, France
 M. Lottmann, Paris, France; acquired from the above in the 1960s-70s

Comparanda
 For an example but with an applied foot compare *Pompeji Wiederentdeckt* (Rome, 1993), pp.201-202, no.111

Description
 Free-blown in clear olive-green glass. The tankard, with particularly thin walls, has a piriform body with low, rounded belly, handle drawn from the body and attached to the wide mouth above which rises the thumb rest, set on an integral moulded foot. Intact, with thick pearl-like iridescence on the interior.



74. Trefoil-lipped bottle with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 7.3cm

Provenance
 Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.99

Comparanda
 Chris S. Lightfoot, *Ancient Glass in National Museums Scotland* (Edinburgh, 2007), no.377, pp.150-151

Description
 Free-blown in clear, cobalt-blue glass. Extremely light and thin-walled, the globular body is decorated with a fine spiral of trail in the same cobalt-blue glass, the conical neck terminates in a trefoil lip. Intact, a small crack to the lower part of the body, the surface with scattered patches of incrustation and purple-blue iridescence.

The trefoil lip on this bottle makes it a rare form.



75. Amphoriskos with trailing
1st century AD
Height: 11.9cm

Provenance
 C.A. Hessing, the Netherlands; collection no.64
 Property of C.A. Hessing; Bonhams, London, 22nd September 1998, unsold
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from Hessing, 3rd May 1999

Published
 Bonhams, London, *Antiquities*, 22nd September 1998, lot 234
 Kunsthandel M. Zilverberg, *Archaeology-Ancient Coins* (Amsterdam, 1999), no.99

Comparanda
 A. von Saldern, B. Nolte, P. La Baume and T.E. Haevernick, *Gläser der Antike, Sammlung Erwin Oppenländer* (Hamburg, 1974), no.644

Description
 Free-blown in translucent yellow glass. The thin-walled vessel is decorated with fine trailing spiralling the entirety of the spherical body, the cylindrical neck leads to an out-turned and inward-folded lip, handles drawn from just beneath to halfway up the neck, pontil mark on the underside of the raised base. Intact.



76. Jug with trailing
Late 1st century AD
Height: 14.6cm

Provenance
 Antiquarium Ltd, New York, USA
 Private collection, USA; acquired from the above, 1988

Description
 Free-blown in translucent, pale yellow glass, with an applied opaque cornflower-blue translucent. The spherical body is decorated with blue spiral trailing, the same glass is used for the handle which is drawn from the shoulder, folded and attached beneath the lip, creating a thumb-rest, the neck relatively tall, the lip out-turned and inward-folded, the body set on an integral raised tubular foot. Intact, small losses to the trail around the neck area.

The combination of the opaque blue and yellow is rare, and may indicate a North Italian workshop.



77. Bottle with trailing
Eastern Mediterranean,
1st century AD
Height: 10.7cm

Provenance

Found near Hebron, Israel
 Kaufmann's Antiques, Tel Aviv, Israel
 Private collection, USA; acquired from
 the above, 22nd February 1971

Comparanda

John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman
 Glass in the Royal Ontario Museum*
 (Toronto, 1975), no.113

Description

Free-blown in transparent, pale blue glass,
 with added opaque white glass. The near-
 spherical body has fine trailing in opaque
 white, which spirals from the centre of the
 base, up around the body, and continuing
 halfway up the tall cylindrical neck, which
 has a splayed and folded lip. Intact, a few
 small areas of trail missing.



78. Jug with trailing
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 15cm

Provenance

Beirut art market, Lebanon
 Farouk Bey Abassy, UK; acquired from
 the above in the 1960s, thence by descent

Description

Free-blown in clear pale blue glass. The jug
 has a low sloping shoulder, the strap handle
 drawn from the shoulder and folded before
 being attached to the lip, creating a thumb
 rest, the double lip is folded outwards, a thick
 spiral of trail decorating the conical neck, the
 ring foot blown as part of the whole piece,
 and has a pontil mark. Intact.



79. Square-sided jug
Black Sea region,
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 23.5cm

Provenance

Farouk Bey Abassy, UK; acquired in Beirut
 in the 1960s, thence by descent

Comparanda

Véronique Arveiller-Dulong and Marie-
 Dominique Nenna, *Les Verres Antiques du*
Musée du Louvre II (Paris, 2005), no.884

Description

Mould-blown in translucent, green-blue
 glass. The straight-sided jug has a ribbed
 strap handle drawn from the flat shoulder
 and attached to the top of the cylindrical
 neck, the lip out-turned, folded inwards
 and flattened, the underside with a motif
 composed of mirrored semi-circular lines
 within a circle. Intact.



80. Jug
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 7.3cm

Provenance

London art market
 Private collection, Switzerland; acquired
 from the above 1970s

Comparanda

For the form with a variation of the handle,
 compare David Whitehouse, *Roman Glass*
in the Corning Museum of Glass, Vol.I
 (New York, 1997), no.720, p.180

Description

Free-blown in translucent, pale yellow glass.
 The spherical body has a tall cylindrical neck
 with flared rim and band of trail towards
 the base, set on a ring base, the underside
 with a pontil mark, a strap handle drawn
 upwards from the shoulder and set at right
 angles level with the lip, a fold creating a
 thumb rest where the handle joins the rim.
 The surface acid cleaned. Intact.



81. Amphoriskos
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 8.4cm

Provenance

Louis-Gabriel Bellon (1819-1899), St. Nicholas-les-Arras, France; collection no.512

Description

Free-blown in translucent, light-green glass. The spherical body has a pair of loop handles attached from shoulder to underside of the everted inward-folded lip, with a pad base that is slightly pushed in, with tubes of air bubbles inside the fold. Old white rectangular collection label with '512' typed in black on the body. Intact, a horizontal crack around the neck.



82. Stemmed beaker
c.1st-3rd century AD
Height: 11.7cm

Provenance

Anonymous Sale; Archaeological Center Ltd, Jaffa, Israel, 1st April 2003
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, inventory number 152

Published

Archaeological Center Ltd, Jaffa, Israel, *Auction* 29, 1st April 2003, lot 252

Description

Free-blown in clear, blue-green glass. The beaker of slender form, has a single line of clear trailing around the centre, and a slightly everted rim, the tall walls narrowing into a hollow, conical, pedestal foot with remnants of pontil mark. Intact, small chip to trailing.



83. Goblet
c.4th-6th century AD
Height: 8.1cm

Provenance

Private collection, near Würzburg, Germany
 Dr. Fischer Kunstauktionen, Heilbronn, Germany, 17th October 2015
 Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, collection number 323

Published

Dr. Fischer Kunstauktionen, Heilbronn, Germany, *European Glass and Studio Glass*, Auktion 242, 17th October 2015, lot 2

Comparanda

David Whitehouse, *Roman Glass in the Corning Museum of Glass, Vol.I* (New York, 1997), no.154, p.104

Description

Free-blown in transparent, olive-green glass. The bell-shaped goblet has an everted rim, the straight walls curving sharply to a narrow, rounded bowl, set on a short hollow stem and folded tubular foot, the fold of the foot has golden iridescence within, caused by water exposure over time. Intact.



84. Marbled unguentarium
Eastern Mediterranean,
1st century AD
Height: 10.3cm

Provenance

Private collection, USA; acquired 1980s

Comparanda

For a smaller version, without the white marble, compare an example in the Ancient Glass Blog of The Allaire Collection, posted on 30th March 2012

Description

Free-blown in thick, translucent purple and opaque white marbled glass. The marbling is particularly beautiful and refined, a constriction at the top of the body and around the base of the cylindrical beak has created a bulge at the shoulder, the lip out-turned and inward-folded. Label on base reads 'ANT 1730'. Intact.



85. Roman marbled flask
1st-3rd century AD
Height: 7.3cm

Provenance

Anonymous sale; Christie's, London, 13th December 1983
Anonymous sale; Christie's, London, 12th December 1984
M. Lottmann, Paris, France

Comparanda

For a similarly purple marbled flask with a shorter neck compare Anastassios Antonaras, *Fire and Sand; Ancient Glass in the Princeton University Art Museum* (Princeton, 2012), p.211, nos.314

Publications

Christie's, London, UK, *Fine Antiquities*, 13th December 1983, lot 6
Christie's, London, UK, *Fine Antiquities*, 12th December 1984, lot 4

Description

Free-blown in purple and clear glass, with vertical marbling, the surface with patches of rainbow-like iridescence. The body is piriform with a thin wheel-cut line towards the top, a short cylindrical neck and out-splayed lip, a section of which is restored. The surface has some rainbow-coloured iridescence and some slight pitting.



86. Twin-necked bottle
Eastern Mediterranean,
c.3rd-4th century AD
Height: 8.9cm

Provenance

Private collection of K.A., Paris, France;
acquired 1980s

Comparanda

For an example of the two vases fused together compare Véronique Arveiller-Dulong and Marie-Dominique, *Les Verres Antiques du Musée du Louvre, Vol.II* (Paris, 2005), no.61

Description

Free-blown in translucent purple glass, a few areas showing the remains of large opaque white flecks on the surface. The spherical body has a wide neck pinched vertically to create two tubes, the lip a little out-turned then inward-folded. A break to the body repaired, with a small lacuna restored.

This is a rare form, for which we have been unable to find another example. The more common variant has two separately blown vessels fused together, so that both the body and the neck are separated by a wall. The technique used in this example is also unusual, where a globule of molten glass was rolled in flecks of a



87. Double balsamarium
Eastern Mediterranean,
3rd-4th century AD
Height: 13cm

Provenance

Ernst (1903-1990) and Marthe Kofler-Truniger (1918-1999), Lucerne, Switzerland; acquired prior to 1981
Their sale; Christie's, London, 5th-6th March 1985
Jerome Eisenberg, New York, USA; acquired from the above

Exhibited

Kunstmuseum Luzern, '3000 Jahre Glaskunst von der Antike bis zum Jugendstil', 19th July-13th September 1981, no.460

Published

Beat Rütli, *3,000 Jahre Glaskunst* (Luzern, 1981), no.460
Christie's, London, *Ancient Glass Formerly the Kofler-Truniger Collection*, 5th-6th March 1985, lot 23

Comparanda

Martine Newby Haspeslagh, *Ancient Glass from the Collection of Lord Michael Levy* (London, 2021), no.137

Description

Free-blown in translucent, bright turquoise



88. Grape flask
Syro-Palestinian,
2nd-3rd century AD
Height: 14.4cm

Provenance

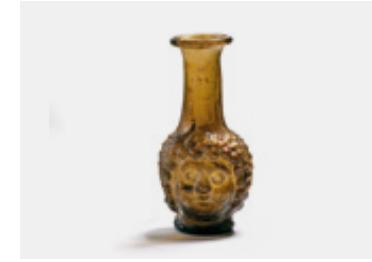
Private collection; acquired 1960s

Comparanda

Nina Kunina, *Ancient Glass in the Hermitage Collection* (St. Petersburg, 1997), cat.no.151

Description

Mould-blown in translucent, pale-blue glass. From a two part mould, the body in the form of a stylised bunch of grapes, with a tall cylindrical free-blown neck and wide, folded lip, the base of the neck pushed downwards to create a hollow collar, the flat, thickened base with pontil mark. Intact, some iridescence on the interior.



89. Janus-headed flask
c.2nd century AD
Height: 10.8cm

Provenance

Superior Galleries, California, USA
 Dr Sid Port, Santa Monica, California, USA;
 acquired from the above in the 1980s
 Private collection, Palm Desert, USA;
 acquired from the above in the 1990s

Comparanda

Susan B. Matheson, *Ancient Glass in the Yale University Art Gallery* (Yale, 1980), no.189

Description

Mould-blown in translucent, dark olive-green glass. Janiform (double sided) head flask, each face with distinctively rounded eyes, stylised tight ringlets, and a strong brow-bone leading to the nose, the short slightly flaring neck has a splayed and folded lip. Intact, air-bubbles throughout.



90. Beaker with wheel-cut lines
1st century AD
Height: 8.9cm

Provenance

Otto Schäfer (1912-2000), Schweinfurt, Germany; acquired 1960s

Comparanda

Sotheby's, London, *The Constable-Maxwell Collection of Ancient Glass*, 4th-5th June 1979, no.224

Description

Free-blown in translucent, deep cobalt-blue glass. The straight-sided beaker has a cut-off rim, a single wheel-cut line beneath the top of the body and double lines towards the bottom, the base flat. Intact.



91. Hofheim cup
Italy or North Western provinces,
c. mid 1st century AD
Height: 7.3cm

Provenance

Herzer & Co., Munich, Germany; acquired in the 1970s
Private collection, Germany
North American art market
Anonymous Sale; Christie's, New York, 4th June 2008, consigned from the above
Private collection of L.T., Switzerland
Cahn Auktionen AG, Basel, Switzerland, 19th November 2014
Merrin Gallery, New York, USA
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above 18th June 2015

Published

Christie's, New York, *Antiquities*, 4th June 2008, lot 115
Cahn Auktionen AG, Basel, *Auktion 9*, 19th November 2014, lot 224

Comparanda

E. Marianne Stern, *Roman, Byzantine and Early Medieval Glass in the Ernesto Wolf Collection* (Ostfildern, 2001), p.73, cat.no.16

Description

Free-blown in translucent, bright amber-

coloured glass. The beaker has particularly thin walls, a fine wheel-cut line beneath the slightly uneven, ground-down rim, with a thicker one at the widest part of the body bordered by two further lines. The base gently pushed up. Intact, patches of incrustation and thin layers of iridescence throughout.

This form of cup, which was typically blown in both bright and natural colours, are frequently referred to "Hofheim cups". So-named after the Rhineland military site where over thirty examples were found.



92. Stemmed beaker
4th-6th century AD
Height: 10.5cm

Provenance

Anonymous Sale; Sotheby's, New York, 17th December 1997
Private collection, the Netherlands; acquired from the above, inventory number 046e or 068

Published

Sotheby's, New York, *Antiquities and Islamic Art*, 17th December 1997, lot 22

Comparanda

John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman Glass in the Royal Ontario Museum* (Toronto, 1975), no.379, p.104, illus. p.211

Description

Free-blown in translucent turquoise-coloured glass. Tall slender body widening a little towards the rim, with constricted base and a low spreading convex foot, the bottom pushed in. Intact with some light surface iridescence.



93. Moulded amphoriskos
Sidon, 1st-2nd century AD
Height: 7.2cm

Provenance

Leo Gitbud, Munich, Germany
Döring collection, Munich, Germany; acquired from the above in 1982

Comparanda

For the form compare Axel von Saldern et al., *Gläser der Antike: Sammlung Erwin Oppenländer* (Mainz am Rhein: Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1974), nos.413 and 414, pp.144-147

Description

Mould-blown in translucent pale yellow glass from a two part mould. The ovoid body has a central band of decoration of interlinked volutes, a rib pattern above and below, handles drawn upwards from the shoulder and attached at the top of the short, cylindrical neck, lip out-turned and inward-folded, the base flat. A layer of pearl-like iridescence to the interior surface. Intact.



94. Pilgrim flask
Rome,
4th century AD
Height: 13.5cm

Provenance

Found in Jerusalem, Israel
Antiquarium Denny Pinkus Ltd, Jaffa, Israel
Alan Levin, USA; acquired from the above
May 1995

Comparanda

John W. Hayes, *Roman and Pre-Roman Glass in the Royal Ontario Museum* (Toronto, 1975), no.389, p.106, illustrated p.208

Description

Mould-blown in translucent yellow glass. Lentoid body with diagonal striations, handles drawn from the shoulder to the middle of the cylindrical neck, which is decorated with a fine thread of spiral trail, the lip flared, inward-folded and flattened, pontil mark to the base. Intact, some iridescence and light surface pitting.



95. Ribbed juglet
Sidon,
c.3rd century AD
Height: 7.7cm

Provenance

Antiquities Auction, Tel-Aviv, June 1993, lot 441
Alan Levin, USA; acquired from the above

Comparanda

For the form compare with Axel von Saldern et al., *Gläser der Antike: Sammlung Erwin Oppenländer* (Mainz am Rhein: Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1974), no. 422, p.146 illustrated p.151

Description

Mould-blown in clear, rich, purple glass, with a translucent yellow handle. The body of the ovoid-shaped flask moulded with horizontal ribs, attached to a free-blown short cylindrical neck and out-turned and inward-folded lip, the base rounded. Intact.



96. Ribbed amphoriskos
Sidon, 1st-2nd century AD
Height: 7.3cm

Provenance

Döring collection, Munich, Germany;
acquired in 1980

Comparanda

For the form compare Axel von Saldern et al., *Gläser der Antike: Sammlung Erwin Oppenländer* (Mainz am Rhein: Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1974), no.421, p.146

Description

Mould-blown amphoriskos in clear yellow with blue-grey handles. The body of the ovoid shaped flask covered in horizontal ribs with slightly pointed base, short cylindrical neck and a fared and inward-folded lip. Two small vertical handles drawn from the shoulder to the neck and placed in line with the seam from where it was blown in a two-part mould. Small cracks on rim otherwise intact.



97. Spherical unguentarium
1st-2nd century AD
Height: 8.4cm

Provenance

Axel Weber, Cologne, Germany
Döring collection, Munich, Germany;
acquired from the above in 1989

Description

Free-blown in thin, opaque white glass. Spherical body, slender neck rising to an everted rim, the lip inward-folded, flattened base. A section broken and re-attached, some minor hairline cracks to the surface.



98. Marbled flask
1st-3rd century AD
Height: 11cm

Provenance

Axel Weber, Cologne, Germany
 Döring collection, Munich, Germany;
 purchased from the above in 1985

Comparanda

For the form compare with Axel von Saldern et al., *Gläser der Antike: Sammlung Erwin Oppenländer* (Mainz am Rhein: Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1974), no. 372, pp.134-5.

Description

Free-blown in translucent amber-coloured and opaque glass. The slender, piriform body has a small, flattened base, and rises to a tall cylindrical neck with an everted and inward-folded lip. Some pitting and minor surface accretion, small areas of iridescence. Intact.



99. Spherical bottle
1st-3rd century AD
Height: 7.5cm

Provenance

Leo Gitbud, Munich, Germany
 Döring collection, Munich, Germany; acquired from the above in 1988

Comparanda

Nina Kunina, *Ancient Glass in the Hermitage Collection* (St. Petersburg, 1997), cat.no.351, p323, illustrated p.207

Description

Free-blown in translucent, deep cobalt-blue glass. Near spherical body with a cylindrical neck tapering slightly towards the out-turned and inward folded lip, the base flattened. Some pearl-like iridescence to the interior. Small crack to the lip, otherwise intact.



100. Flask with spiked projections
Eastern Mediterranean,
5th-6th century AD
Height: 6.2cm

Provenance

Bernd Gackstätter, Frankfurt, Germany
 Döring collection, Munich, Germany;
 purchased from the above in 2004

Comparanda

Susan B. Matheson, *Ancient Glass in the Yale University Art Gallery* (Yale, 1980), p.127, no.341

Description

Free-blown in translucent blue-green glass, the surface covered in pearl-like iridescence. The piriform body with a pushed-in base has scattered pinched projections over the surface, the short conical neck flaring upwards from a slight constriction, the uneven lip cracked-off. Intact, one spine broken.

CREDITS

Published May 2025
In an edition of 600

Floral Design
Shane Connolly
shaneconnolly.co.uk

Design
threaddesign.co.uk

Photography
Jaron James
jaronjames.co.uk

Printed by
Graphius

Charles Ede Ltd
1 Three Kings' Yard
London
W1K 4JP

+44 20 7493 4944
info@charlesede.com
www.charlesede.com

All images courtesy of Charles Ede.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or any storage or retrieval system, without prior permission from the copyright holders and publishers.