

# MARK STURKENBOOM

## CONCEPTUAL DESIGNER

INTRODUCED BY

GALERIE des LYONS

PROUD MEMBER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS  
ASSOCIATION « CARRÉ RIVE GAUCHE »  
OF THE HISTORICAL 7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT OF PARIS.



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# BIOGRAPHIE

Mark Sturkenboom (Driebergen, 1983)

Sturkenboom was formerly a welder before graduating with honors in 2012 at Artez, Institute for the Arts in Arnhem. Sturkenboom is trained as a designer, but now acts as an independent artist.

Design is a word that can mean a great deal of different things depending on the time, place and context that one chooses to view it in. The Oxford English Dictionary defines design as: "Purpose, planning, or intention that exists or is thought to exist behind an action, fact, or material object" Perhaps that's his only tie with design; Sturkenboom creates purposeful, intentional objects. In doing so, he works together with devoted craftsmen and artisans around the world. His work is part of public and private collections and exhibitions worldwide.

Sturkenboom delivers absolute statements through fierce intention, careful planning, and a purposeful energy that proliferates in his will to express. Throughout all of this he manages to balance a visual cadence between the absurd and a sharp sense of humor. He welcomes the viewer to casually slip into his conceptual narrative.

Memory is prevalent in his line of work, throughout his entire oeuvre is the ability to preserve a moment in a state of crystal clarity. Memory is messy, it is flavored by myriad personal influences. Memory changes, morphing with age and experience, fading into personal fictions, diluting into deep well of life's experience. Sturkenboom works against the entropic process, realizing his ideas with clean lines, a sensitive palette, careful mechanisms that resist the temptation of clutter and confusion. He realizes single memories with exacting intention.

Lets take one example: We, as a culture fear death, and we do our best not to think of it. Sturkenboom's work *21 Grams* drives us to consider it. But this consideration is faceted, it contains within it a breadth of sentiments. More contemplative than it is macabre, more playful than it is perverse. *21 Grams*, like a prism, refracts an emotional muddle into distinct perspectives of personal perspective.

Lets take another example: We, as a culture, are enamored by objects - perfect forms created in organized environments. Physical human beauty is always cruel because it will absolutely disappear. With his *Crystallized Overgrown mirrors* he illustrates this fading beauty which is subjected to time.

Manufacture is comfortable because it always yields the same result. These are the cruxes of the work of Sturkenboom, he resists manufacture, he embraces material. He weaves together histories, he composites the living memory with the permanence of genuine mediums. Offering the everlasting object, balanced with the fragility of human experience.

*Text by Adam Grinovich*

# BIBLIOGRAPHIE

## Exhibitions

- 2018 Here is Now, Long Museum, icw Gallery All, Shanghai, China  
Collect at Saatchi Gallery, icw Mint London, London, UK
- 2016 Artist in Residence, The Glass Factory, Boda Gassbruk, Sweden
- 2017 Group show Extraordinaire, Tools Gallery, Paris, France

## Art Fair

- 2019 Salone del Mobile, Milano, Italy
- 2018 DesignMiami, icw Gallery All, Miami, USA  
DesignShanghai, icw Gallery All, Shanghai, China
- 2017 DesignMiami, icw Gallery All, Miami, USA  
The Salon NY, icw Gallery All, New-York, USA  
Design Shanghai, icw Gallery All, Shanghai, China
- 2016 The Salon NY, icw Gallery All, New-York, USA
- 2015 Salone del Mobile, Milano, Italy

## Other

- 2019 Viceland ; Appearance on Viceland's Most Expensivest starring 2Chainz, Los-Angeles, USA
- 2017 Hosting « Masterglass », Conceptual glass blowing project with 16 International students, collab. Cathelijne Engelkes, Boda Glassbruk, Sweden  
Guest-teacher BA & MA, Kønsthogeschole KHIO, Oslo, Norway
- 2016 Guest-teacher BA & MA, Kønsthogeschole KHIO, Oslo, Norway
- 2015 Guest-teacher BA, Kønsthogeschole KHIO, Oslo, Norway  
Grant Deelregeling talentenwikkeling, selected by Stimuleringsfonds voor de Creatieve Industry (NL), 25.000€
- 2014 OVERGROWN x MIKIMOTO, Commisionned by The Royal Dutch Embassy of Japan and Mikimoto Gallery, Curated by Lenn Cox, Tokyo, Japan  
Concept and design Mephisto, collab. With Ted Noten  
Designer for various concepts and objects for 7 Necessities commissioned by Atelier Ted Noten, Cathelijne Engelkes  
Exterior design for Zuiderzee Museum Geurstation, collab. With Marcel Van Kan, commissioned by Atelier Ted Noten
- 2013 Production video for Watching Monet by Carlight concept and idea by Ted Noten  
Foundation of Atelier Mark Sturkenboom, Utrecht, Netherlands

# COLLECTIBLE DESIGN

**IN GALLERY - TEMPORARY GALLERY AT CANNES (FRANCE) 2021-2022**





**ONCE UPON A TIME HYPNOS**

Stainless steel, mineral crystals  
Culture of mineral crystal on objects

29,5" x 29,5" x Depth 3,55"

Customizable [x]

Numbered / 10

Price : 16 500 €

**DETAILS** - ONCE UPON A TIME - HYPNOS







**ONCE UPON A TIME PASITHEA**

Stainless steel, mineral crystals  
Culture of mineral crystal on objects  
47,2" x 30,7" x Depth 3,55"

Customizable []

Numbered / 10

Price : 18 500 €

**DETAILS - ONCE UPON A TIME - PASITHEA**





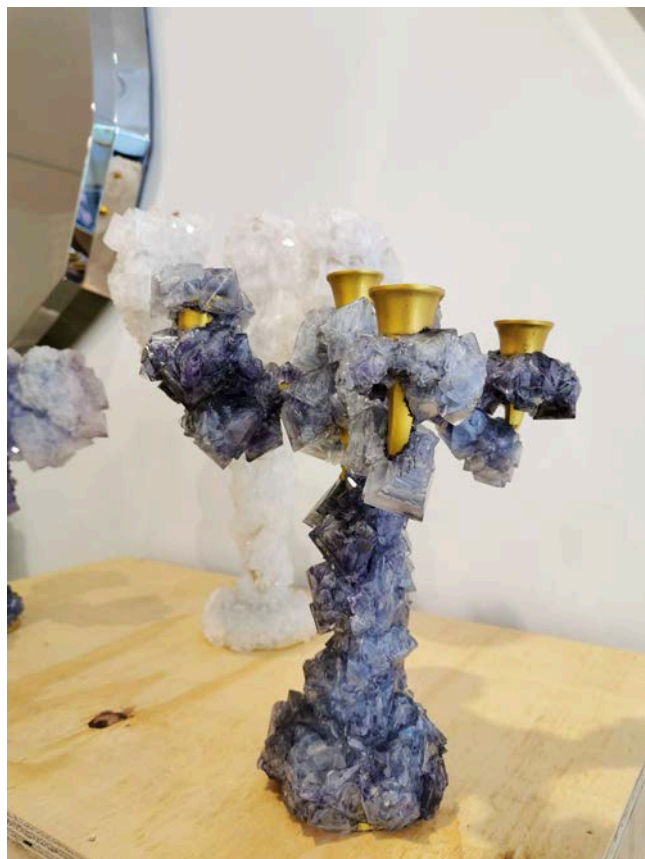
### **OVERGROWN CANDELABRAS**

Aluminium candleholder,  
Culture of mineral crystal on the object  
Prices vary according to the characteristics of the works

**Customizable** [✓]

Crystal can also be in grey / black

## DETAILS - OVERGROWN CANDELABRAS





### **OVERGROWN CHANDELIER**

14k gold-plated brass, aluminum

Cultivation of stalagmites / crystals on the object

Height 75 x Width 40 x Depth 40 cm

Height 29,53" x Width 15,75" x Depth 15,75" in.

**Customizable [✓]**

Crystal can be white, black or purple

**Each piece is unique**

It is possible to transform your own objects on request.

It takes 12 to 16 weeks to create a chandelier and the price varies according to the dimensions.

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**DETAILS - OVERGROWN CHANDELIER**



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## **OVERGROWN BUBBLES**

Ceiling lights

Mouthblown glass, natural crystal, dimmable lights

3 sizes from 40 to 120 cm

3 sizes from 15,75" to 47,24" in.

**Customizable [✓]**

Crystal can be white, black or purple

**Each piece is unique**

Sturkenboom teamed up with Alex de Witte and created the Overgrown Bubbles.

These mouth blown glass lights are overgrown with natural crystal for which Sturkenboom developed a liquid that allows objects to grow crystals in a short period of time.

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**DETAILS - OVERGROWN BUBBLES**



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**DETAILS - OVERGROWN BUBBLES**



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## DETAILS - OVERGROWN BUBBLES



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**DETAILS - OVERGROWN BUBBLES**



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## **OVERGROWN GLASS**

Glass and other table containers

Various sizes

**Customizable [✓]**

Crystal can be white, black or purple as long as it is black !

**Each piece is unique**

The Overgrown series was launched in 2013.

The first commission was for the Royal Dutch Embassy in Japan and the Mikimoto Gallery.

Now we work with private collectors around the world on private commissions.

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**DETAILS - OVERGROWN GLASS**





© Photo : Jesse Nortier

### **OVERGROWN X MIKIMOTO**

First prize at "Tradition and Innovation of Dutch Design" Japan 2014

14 Akoya MIKIMOTO pearls, hand-brushed Tuscan leather,

14k gold-plated brass, tempered glass, various technical parts and gears,

Stainless steel, KAI(SO4 )2 12H20, cedar wood

Customizable [x]

One-off (1/1)

Price upon request

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## DETAILS - OVERGROWN X MIKIMOTO



The Japanese Akoya pearl grows in several years to perfection, this is part pre-manipulated but the outcome is not always a guaranteed success.

Not only does it takes patience but also the understanding of not being a 100 % in control.

Like Mikimoto grows their pearl with the influence of time (two years) this crystal piece is also one of time. This timepiece is kept in a solution which allows to grow and crystalize the pearl further, beyond Japanese standards.

Crystals evolve out of the mechanism, out of the gold parts and out of the pearls.

Creating a new natural grown (im)perfection.

The leather cabinet contains an crystalized device holding an crystalized engagement ring, twirling around, waiting to be given away. The crystal piece ring is placed under a glass dome as a clockwork timeframe.

And there is a collier that bares the key that opens the cabinet.

**DETAILS** - OVERGROWN X MIKIMOTO





**DETAILS - OVERGROWN X MIKIMOTO**



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### **WHAT A TIME TO BE ALIVE**

Mirror

Steel, aluminum, chrome, silver

Height 150 x Width 80 x Depth 15 cm

Height 59,05" x Width 31,50" x Depth 5,90" in.

Customizable [x]

Each piece is unique,

Made from Ferrari, Lamborghini, Porsche car doors.

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**DETAILS** - WHAT A TIME TO BE ALIVE - CRASHED PORSCHE DOOR



**DETAILS** - WHAT A TIME TO BE ALIVE - CRASHED LAMBORGHINI DOOR





### **JE NE SUIS PAS UN OISEAU**

Oiseau de Paradis / plug anal

verre, cuir, plumes diverses,

Poème d'amour masqué

Height 40 x Width 20 x Depth 25 cm

Height 15,75" x Width 7,87" x Depth 9,84" in.

Customizable [x]

One-off (1/1)

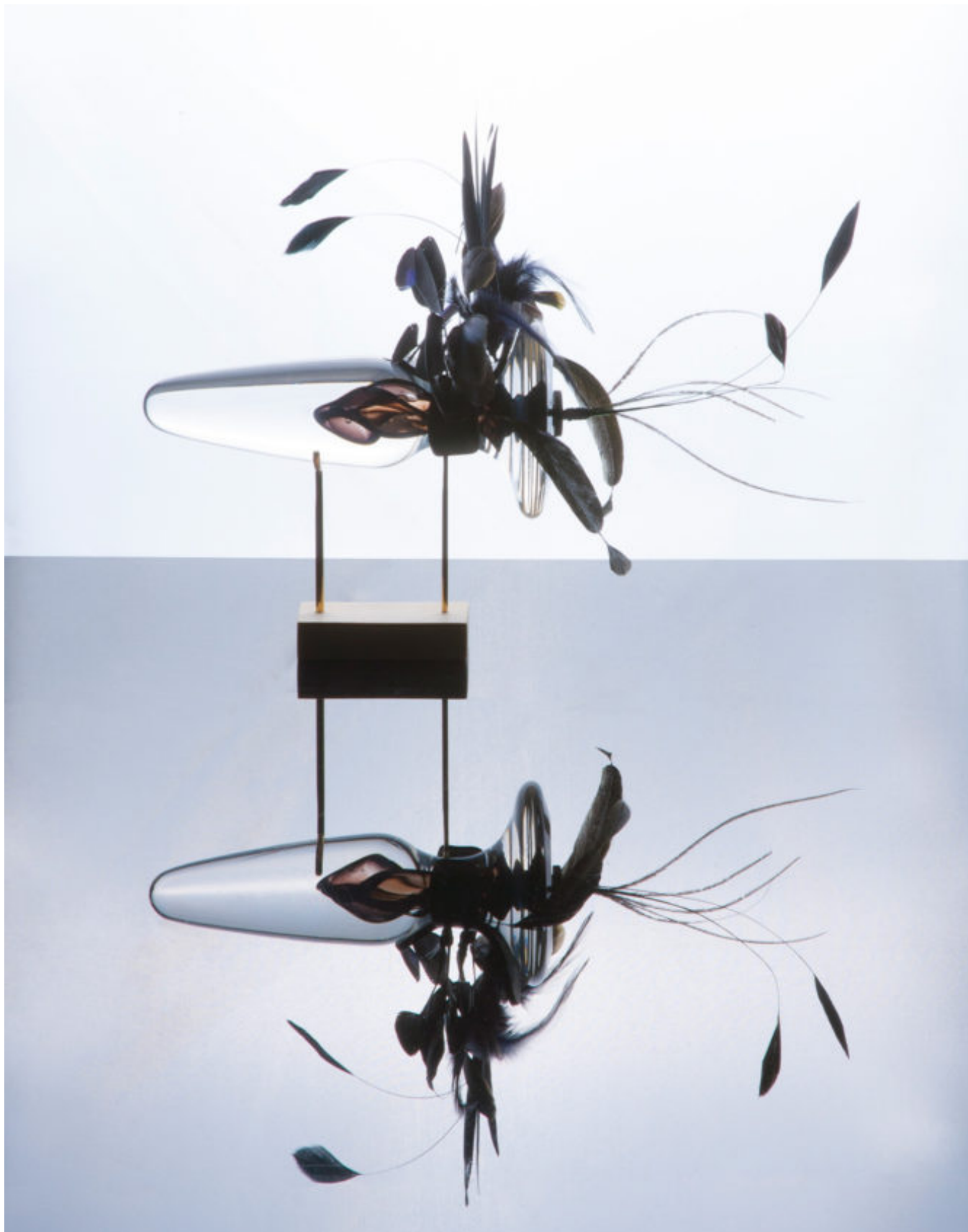
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**DETAILS - JE NE SUIS PAS UN OISEAU**



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## DETAILS - JE NE SUIS PAS UN OISEAU



Je ne suis pas un Oiseau', A paradise bird sculpted on the idea of secret romances and integrating the phenomena of masked letters. This bird is not what you see on first sight. Like so many people who are not free to express their sexual needs or reveal their sexual orientation. Some of us have to wear a constant disguise. This glass Bird of Paradise portrays the power of seduction and reveals a hidden romantic message.



### **SWEET ANTICIPATION**

Mouse trap

Blown and engraved glass, 14k gold-plated brass,

Rough uncut diamond, 18k gold, Italian leather, Japanese silk

Height 45 x Width 40 x Depth 30 cm

Height 17,72" x Width 15,75" x Depth 11,81" in.

Customizable [x]

One-off (1/1)

Price upon request

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**DETAILS - SWEET ANTICIPATION**



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## DETAILS - SWEET ANTICIPATION



Sweet Anticipation is Mark Sturkenbooms pièce de résistance. A 50.000 euro one-of-a kind mousetrap that is designed to change the arrival of the unwanted guest into an arrival of the long awaited.

In 2012, the idea rose about changing our perspective about the modern household, that of over-regulated domains, to be more precise. Because there is a strict order as to who we allow to enter and stay and who we exclude from this privilege. This includes humans as well as animals. The precursor to Sweet Anticipation was born.

Now, seven years after this prototype, we present it's successor. Sweet Anticipation is a luxury and unique mousetrap that includes mouth blown and glass engraved components, a Japanese handknotted silk rope, a raw and uncut diamond and a 18ct gold entrance for it's guest.

With this object that waits to be lived in, one can domesticate a wild intruder and force him or her to become one's companion. Of course, it provides the mouse with a safe place to stay, water and food at hand, but more important it changes our attitudes. The owner of this trap will inevitably wake up one morning with the strong wish that his or her mouse trap will no longer be empty.

Sweet Anticipation is the result.

**DETAILS - SWEET ANTICIPATION**



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## LOVE POTION

Perfume bottle

Blown glass, 18-carat gold-plated brass, leather.

Various sizes

Customizable [✓]

Each piece is unique (1/1)

Price upon request

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## DETAILS - LOVE POTION



Love Potion is a series of mouth blown and handcrafted glass bottles that hold an elixir based on pheromones and (animal) instinct.

The bottles visualize the art of craving and waiting, as they stand on the verge of eruption. 'Romantic timepieces' as Sturkenboom calls them.

For this collection we worked together with the glass blowers and glass cutting artisans from the GlassFactory in Boda, Sweden.

**DETAILS - LOVE POTION**



**DETAILS** - LOVE POTION



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**DETAILS - LOVE POTION**



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**DETAILS - LOVE POTION**



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### **WATCHING TIME FLY BY**

Table clock

Glass, 14k gold plated brass,

Plastics, 500 euros bill

Height 20 x Width 15 x Depth 15 cm

Height 7,87" x Width 5,90" x Depth 5,90" in.

**Customizable [x]**

**One-off (1/1)**

**Price upon request**

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**DETAILS - WATCHING TIME FLY BY**



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## DETAILS - WATCHING TIME FLY BY



Watching time fly by illustrates a new way of experiencing time.

This table-clock doesn't show you what time it is but allows one to see the passing of time..

In the glass shell there is a fly, made out of a 500 euro bill, that flies exactly one round each minute. It is actually possible to see time flying by. Pablo Picasso already told us; 'What one can imagine is by definition part of reality'



© Photo : Jesse Nortier

### **ARK (Volume 1)**

Ark / Light object

4 carat gold-plated brass, rosewood, blown glass,  
Tuscan leather, mirror, black lacquer, stamp, 14k gold plated barometer  
Height 70 x Longueur 110 x Depth 30 cm  
Height 27,56" x Width 43,31" x Depth 11,81" in.

Customizable [x]

Edition limited to 3 copies + 1 prototype + 1 AP

In private collection

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## DETAILS - ARK (Volume 1)



What would be the one thing you would save or preserve if a flood is coming?  
Inspired by Noah's Ark and Julian Barnes' *A History of the World in 10 Chapters*;

This 21st century Ark is a vessel that waits for this flood to come, and when it does then it will take off and set sail into the world.

The Ark includes a barometer that can predict when a storm is coming. In the leather box, inside the glass dome, one can place a relic, secret or manifesto then seal it and pass it on for future generations. It's not about the esthetic or materialistic value one wants to display.

The Ark makes us think about that what is of importance to us, and perhaps of what's just static.

But more important, the Ark displays the necessity to ask that question.

**DETAILS - ARK (Volume 1)**





**ARK (Volume 2)**

14k gold-plated brass, Abachi wood,

Silver varnished blown glass, Tuscan leather

14k Gold Plated Barometer, Full Spectrum Remote Control LED Light

Height 80 x Longueur 150 x Depth 30 cm

Height 31,50" x Width 59,05" x Depth 11,81" in.

Customizable [x]

Limited edition to 3 copies + 1 prototype + 1 AP

Price upon request

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Ark (Volume 2): Paradigm Shift is the second unique edition of Sturkenboom's Ark series. With the first Ark, Sturkenboom investigated the conceptual underpinnings of what is most important to the individual and what one wants preserve when the world faces the great flood.

Ark (Volume 2) has an existential inclination; questioning the significance of human life and the role we play in this universe, building upon the notion that we are just a small spectacle in an ever-expanding galaxy.

The Ark is a vessel to explore an ongoing dialogue between utopia and dystopia and a means to explore a fictional scenario about time and space, reflecting on current and potential futures such as afterlife and time travel.

**DETAILS** - ARK (Volume 2)





© Photo : Sanne Zurné/Yoram Tomasowa

## SEPARATION ANXIETY

Vase / piggy bank

Ceramic, leather, tulipwood, 14k gold-plated brass

Height 25 x Width 20 x Depth 15 cm

Height 9,84" x Width 7,87" x Depth 5,90" in.

Customizable [x]

One-off (1/1)

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## DETAILS - SEPARATION ANXIETY



Jewish families used to hide their valuable belongings in their violins, pots or vases, which were smashed to smithereens when the need arose.

This started the idea for Separation Anxiety. This vase displays a compassionless farewell. Free yourself from your possessions by destroying them.

This vase is not only meant to display a flower but is also a container for your valuable belongings like your money or some golden rings.

When the leather cord is pulled, the spring releases a golden pin that will shoot the vase to smithereens.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### CUSTOMIZABLE [✓]

Can be made in different sizes and/or materials despite its singularity.

In some cases, can also be used as a model to create a different work.

Tailor-made is our mindset, in addition to the different works and materials we present in our catalogues, we develop various projects and 3Ds in preparation for our development.

[Contact us](#) of a tailor-made project.

### CUSTOMIZABLE [X]

As it stands, this work is a spontaneous creation, the result of the inspiration and know-how of the artist.

It is either a unique piece or a limited edition.

Although this is not initially planned, the creation of a personalized and or tailor-made version of this work requires prior study.

[Contact us](#) for further information.

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By default, in French, dimensions and weight are expressed in centimeters (cm) and kilograms (kg.)

By default, in English, dimensions and weights are expressed in inches (") and pounds (lb.)

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The Galerie des Lyons cannot be held responsible for this additional delay.

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