



ARTĚL

LAUNCHES LIMITED EDITION ANIMATION COLLECTION,
CURATED BY J. M. LEDGARD

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC – In unprecedented times, there is a need for bold ideas, new perspectives, and rich expression. This winter, in continuation of its tradition of exceptional collaborative projects with world-class artists, designers, and academics, ARTĚL – the globally renowned producer of luxury crystal – will release a special limited-edition collection of handmade glassware curated by the British novelist and technologist J. M. Ledgard. The collection features original designs by six highly original minds.

Best known for his 2013 novel, *Submergence* (a New York Times Book of the Year that was adapted for the screen by Wim Wenders), Ledgard has been a close friend of ARTĚL founder/director Karen Feldman for many years and wrote his acclaimed 2006 novel, *Giraffe* (which is set in Communist Czechoslovakia and features a glassmaker as a protagonist), while staying in her country house in southern Bohemia.

“Whenever we’re together, I’m always amazed by Jonathan’s stories about his wide circle of fascinating friends and colleagues,” says Feldman, noting that these conversations ultimately inspired the idea for the current project: Ledgard would select a small group of artists, scientists, and other creative types to design a glass for a limited edition set.

The original concept was to forgo any specific content parameters and simply encourage participants to create original design motifs. However, upon initiating the project in March 2020 – just as the COVID-19 pandemic was gaining momentum – Ledgard chose the organizing theme of *animation*, which he defined broadly as “the persistence and flourishing of life in its cell structures, forms, and its patterns and light.” Specifically, each contributor was asked to “pick an image, an equation, or even a line from your respective work that represents animation and which you think could be translated to glass.”

Collectively titled *ANIMATION* – and featuring designs by futuristic Czech-Argentinian artist Federico Díaz, celebrated entomologist Vojtěch Novotný, noted computer scientist Mark Pauly, award-winning science fiction author Kim Stanley Robinson, interdisciplinary artist Nina Rodin, and the globally renowned conceptual artist Tomás Saraceno – the new collection is nothing short of astonishing in its diversity and originality. Limited to an edition of 100 sets, the *ANIMATION* collection includes six handmade Double Old Fashioned glasses; each glass is numbered and each set includes both an artist statement brochure and a certificate of authenticity.

“I’m truly excited to be able to make this very special collection available,” says Feldman. “While each design is entirely unique in conception and aesthetic, they are all incredibly intriguing visual objects that will appeal not only to those interested in the conceptual origins of the project, but to anyone who appreciates design. The fact that they were created by such a diverse group of interesting individuals – who were, in turn, hand-selected for participation by a visionary like Jonathan – makes this set a conversation piece, and its limited availability makes it highly collectable.”

Established in 1998 by American designer and entrepreneur Karen Feldman, ARTĚL specializes in handcrafted, functional crystal glassware of high design. The company takes its name from an early-20th-century collective of Czech artisans whose dedication to preserving the traditional methods of handcraftsmanship led them to reject industrial production techniques. ARTĚL carries on the spirit of these artisans and their commitment to producing – entirely by hand – lasting objects of impeccable quality, design, and functionality. ARTĚL’s innovative product line can be found on the shelves of Asprey, Gump’s, and Scully & Scully, among other exclusive retailers.

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ANIMATION COLLECTION
INTRODUCED IN 2023

PRICE LIST

ANIMATION COLLECTION SET OF SIX DOUBLE OLD FASHIONED GLASSES
DESIGNED EXCLUSIVELY FOR ARTĚL.

LIMITED EDITION OF 100 WITH 11 ARTIST PROOFS.

A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY ACCOMPANIES EACH SET.

PRODUCT CODE: G-212-ANS-6-CS

PRAGUE

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