



## FORTUNE

BY MARK BRAUN WITH LOBMEYR

Gallery Libby Sellers presents 'Fortune' by Berlin-based designer Mark Braun and the esteemed Austrian glass company J & L Lobmeyr. Braun's proposal for the series saw a water carafe, handcrafted by Lobmeyr, engraved with one of seven glaciers, seven lakes or seven rivers from across the globe. The collaboration between Braun, Lobmeyr and Gallery Libby Sellers will include the addition of an eighth river - London's Thames - launched exclusively at the gallery in December 2011.

Lobmeyr's emphasis on the handmade goes beyond venerating the traditions established by the company's founders over 200 years ago, to encompass a contemporary take on luxury. By striving for integrity, quality and beauty in even the most humble of objects, Lobmeyr imbue their glass and crystal with intrinsic characteristics that encourage longevity and loyalty. These carafes are to be enjoyed and employed daily as an essential object, just as the water that they are designed to contain is an essential resource for life.

In this context, 'Fortune' takes on a different connotation: water is the luxury here, as while these international waterways cover 70 per cent of the planet's surface, they are a threatened resource. With climate change, pollution and an increasing population these waters are altering at an alarming rate. Braun's documentation is a frozen moment in this torrent of change. For example, *Fortune: Lake Baikal* has a connection to one of the largest freshwater sources; *Fortune: Lambert Glacier* shows the largest glacier in the Antarctic, which is slowly melting; *Fortune: River Euphrates* depicts an important lifeline for several surrounding countries; while *Fortune: River Thames* celebrates the pivotal role the river has played as a thoroughfare to London's prosperity. As Braun has said, 'We all know that this water will be the new gold.'

The numbered series, and exclusive River Thames carafe, are each signed and detail the name of the body of water, its size and the time the carafe took to engrave. A range of postcard images by graphic designer Anna Sartorius accompanies the series.

Press view: Wednesday 14 December, 11am - 1.30pm  
Exhibition continues until 26 January, 2012

Opening hours: Tuesday - Friday, 11am - 6pm. Saturday 11am - 4pm  
Closed for the holidays 23 December - 3 January 2012

For further information please contact the gallery on the details below