



Tracy H Sugg Private Collection

*TO SEE THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY*  
*Figurative sculpture and iridescent glass*

\$ 850

signed and dated: *Tracy H Sugg/2011*  
stoneware clay & glass  
11 x 5.5 in.



## PROVENANCE

Private Collection of Sculptor Tracy H Sugg 2011 to present

Sculpture that reflects a Touch of the Infinite  
[tracyhsugg.com](http://tracyhsugg.com)



## NOTES

*To See Through a Glass Darkly* was an experimental sculpture that I created along with the work of glass artist of Vitric Vision, Tammy O'Connor. I approached Tammy about working with me on a piece that would combine both figurative sculpture and glass. We had never seen this technique done by anyone before and so were working in uncharted territory.

The sculpture was inspired by the verse by St. Paul in I Corinthians 13:12

*For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*

The imagery of this verse has always intrigued me, and I wanted to see if we could 'transliterate' the verse as a figurative sculpture.

I sculpted the figure and then handed it off to Tammy who would then 'slump' a piece of glass over the figure in her kiln. Though it sounds straightforward, there was a major difficulty in that the rate of expansion in heating and cooling for glass is different than that for stoneware clay. As a result, the glass would break. Tammy worked and worked on various ways around this, and would call me after a firing to tell me that the glass had broken...again.

Finally I told her to quit, that she had broken enough of her glass and that we realized it couldn't be done with the approach we were taking, and she replied that she had another idea and wanted to try again.

When she opened the kiln, Tammy called to tell me that the glass had broken - right as I was telling her to just stop trying she interrupted by telling me "Tracy, you won't believe it, but the glass broke right where her hand was holding the fabric, as if she was able to rend a part of it away!"

Needless to say, we were both thrilled. Not only with the success, but also with the spiritual implications of our Christian Faith - that though we 'see through a glass darkly' now, one day we shall see our Face to face.

In studying the piece, Tammy discovered what could have caused the break and we both intend to continuing experimenting in this area with hopes to create an exhibit of our work together.

This sculpture is the first in this experimental step towards that goal, and reflects the initial collaboration of our work together as sculptor and glass artist.

The purchase of *To See Through a Glass Darkly* includes a signed certificate of authenticity from the sculptor and glass artist.