

# Luke Jerram: Glass Microbiology Sculptures



## Welcome to Luke Jerram's Glass Microbiology Sculpture Collection

Luke Jerram's distinctive Glass Microbiology sculptures beautifully merge the fields of art and science, transforming microorganisms into intricate, stunning works of art. His glass sculptures represent a delicate balance between nature, science, and artistic expression, capturing the beauty and complexity of viruses and bacteria. The sculptures are designed in consultation with virologists from around the world, using a combination of different scientific photographs and models.

Pushing the boundaries of glassblowing, they are made from borosilicate glass and created with the same materials and techniques used in medical scientific glassware for test tubes and distilleries. The artworks are created as alternative representations to the artificially coloured imagery of viruses we consume through the media. In fact, viruses have no colour at all, as they are smaller than the wavelength of light.

The Glass Microbiology sculptures have gained worldwide recognition for their intricate design, conceptual depth, and scientific precision. Editions are in museum collections around the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, Wellcome Collection in London and the Museum of Glass in Shanghai.

This curated collection features pieces each offering a unique glimpse into the hidden beauty of the microscopic world.

**Below is a list of the artworks currently available.**

See [www.lukejerram.com/glass/gallery](http://www.lukejerram.com/glass/gallery) for details of all artworks made to date.

# Covid-19

**Size:** 23cm diameter

## **Description:**

At the end of 2019 Luke Jerram was approached by scientists from Duke University, USA, about creating a glass sculpture of a new strain of virus they were studying, which had recently appeared in China. The very first edition of the sculpture was completed just two days before the UK's National Lockdown began on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

The *Covid-19* sculpture can now be seen as a tribute to the huge global scientific and medical effort to combat the pandemic. It is approximately 2 million times larger than the actual virus and is based on the most up to date scientific diagrams.

Luke Jerram sold editions of the sculpture to museums internationally and raised over £55,000 for Medicine Sans Frontieres to help their work supporting communities impacted by the pandemic.



# Vaccine (Covid-19)

**Size:** 35cm diameter

**Description:**

The sculpture of the Oxford-Astra Zeneca vaccine was released to mark the ten millionth Covid-19 vaccination in the UK. The artwork is over 1 million times larger than the actual nanoparticle.

Editions of *Vaccine (Covid-19)* are in the collections of Eden Project (UK), History of Science Museum (UK) and The Museum of Contemporary Design and Applied Arts (Switzerland).



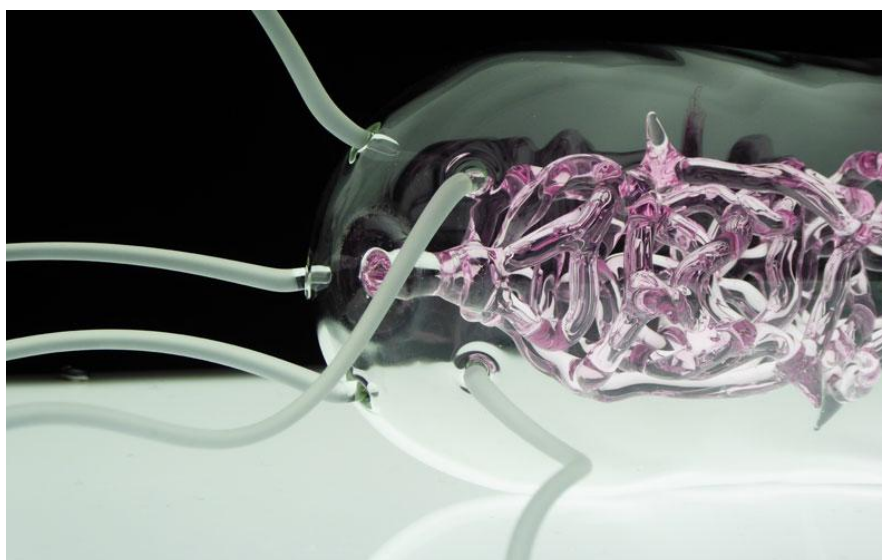
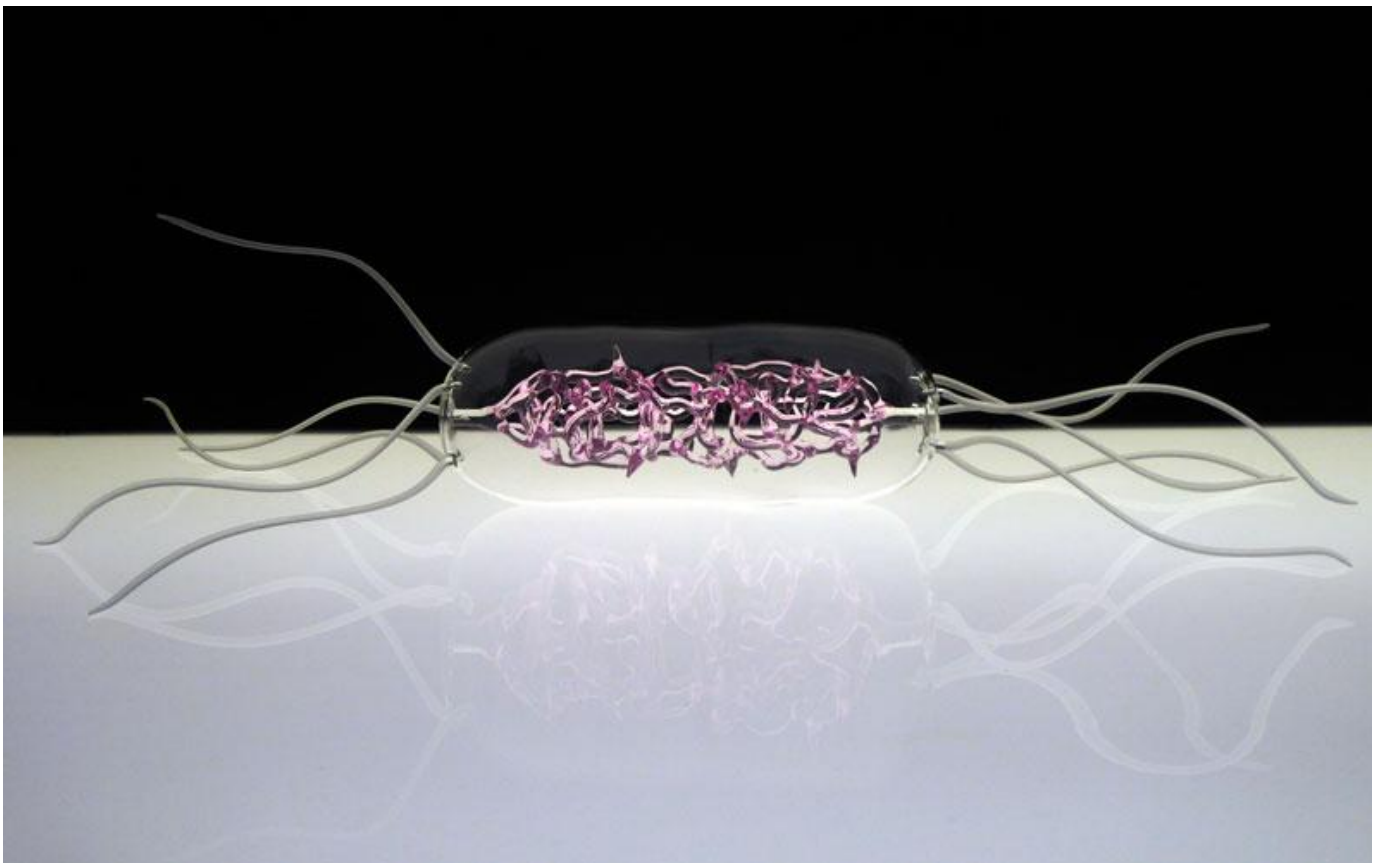
# Pseudomonas Aeruginosa

**Size:** 77cm x 10cm

## **Description:**

*Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is a common bacterium that can cause disease in plants and animals, including humans. A species of considerable medical importance, *P. aeruginosa* is a multidrug resistant pathogen recognised for its ubiquity, its intrinsically advanced antibiotic resistance mechanisms, and its association with serious illnesses, hospital-acquired infections such as ventilator-associated pneumonia and various sepsis syndromes.

The colour of this artwork is as the bacteria looks under a microscope.



# Smallpox

**Size:** 31cm x 26cm

**Description:**

This sculpture was created to contemplate the history and global impact of Smallpox which was globally wiped out by medical science in the 1970's. This representation of the Smallpox virus is as a complex three-dimensional transparent form. The sculpture was designed in consultation with virologists from the University of Bristol (UK) using a combination of different scientific photographs and models.



Another edition of *Smallpox* is also available.

**Size:** 16cm x 10cm



# Malaria

**Size:** 26cm x 17cm

**Description:**

This sculpture represents the Malaria parasite (*Plasmodium falciparum* Merozoite). This spiky version shows the Plasmodium before it has entered a red blood cell.

The first edition of the *Malaria* artwork was made especially for the charity Malaria No More. Musician, Bono promoted the charity auction of the sculpture in New York City.



# HIV

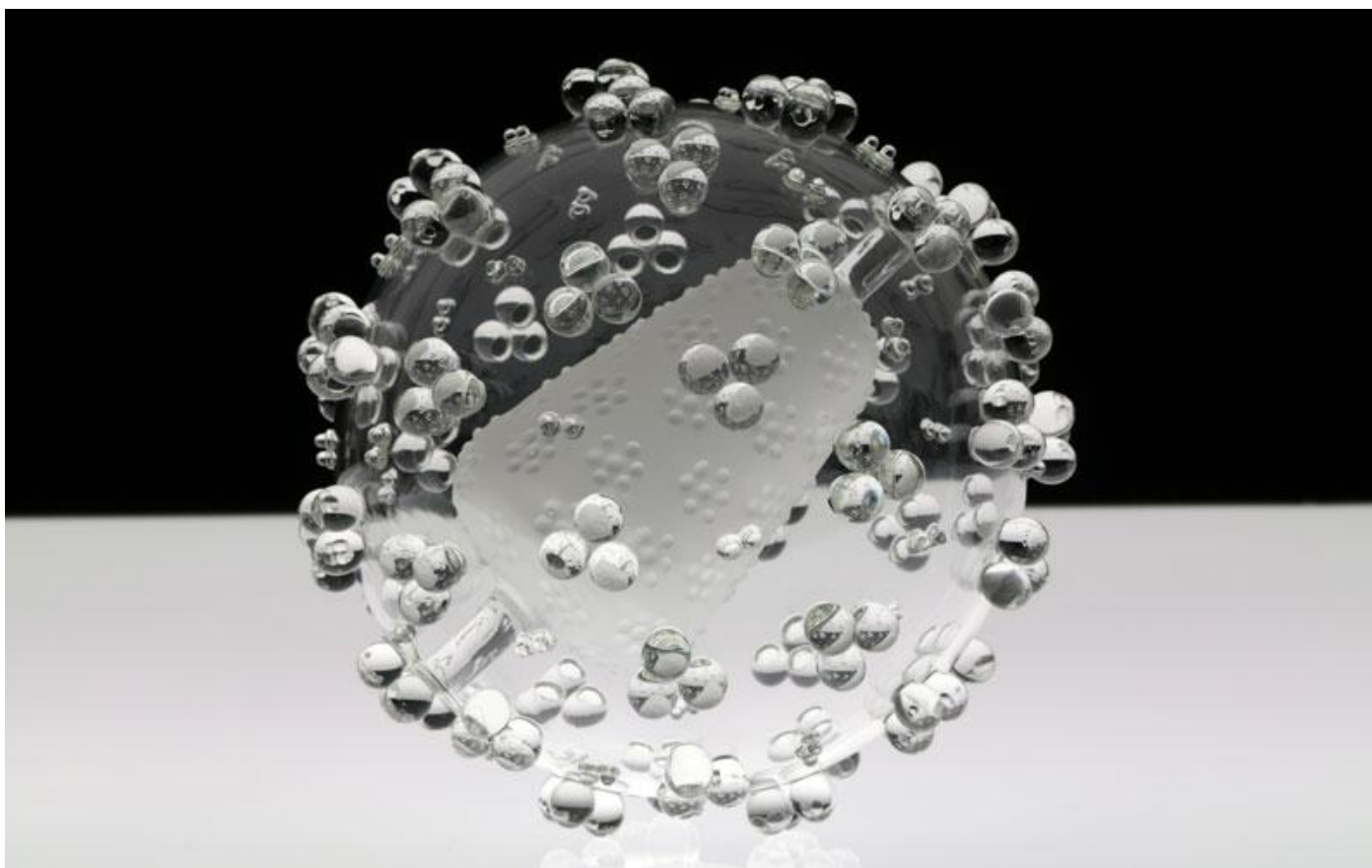
**Size:** 21cm diameter

**Description:**

Luke Jerram's original edition of glass HIV sculptures were made, twenty years ago, as objects to hold and to contemplate the impact of this deadly disease upon humanity.

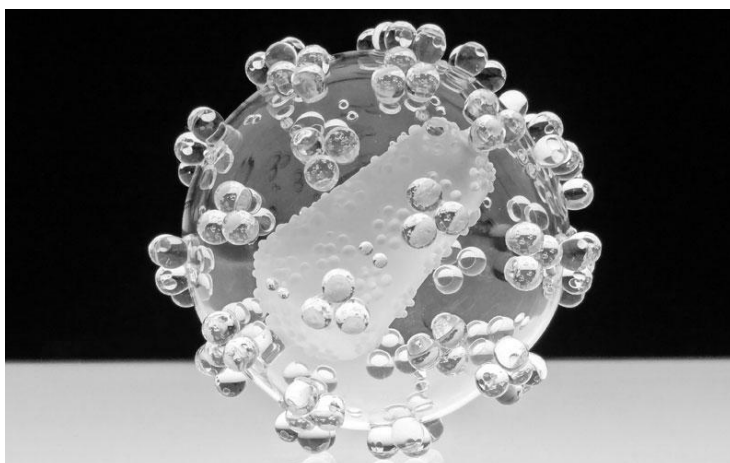
Editions of *HIV* are on display in the Wellcome Collection (UK), Bristol Museum and Art Gallery (UK), Alexander Tutsek Foundation (Germany) and the Corning Museum (USA).

An edition was auctioned for the HIV / Aids Charity AVERT, raising money for victims in South Africa.



Another edition of *HIV* is also available.

**Size:** 9cm diameter



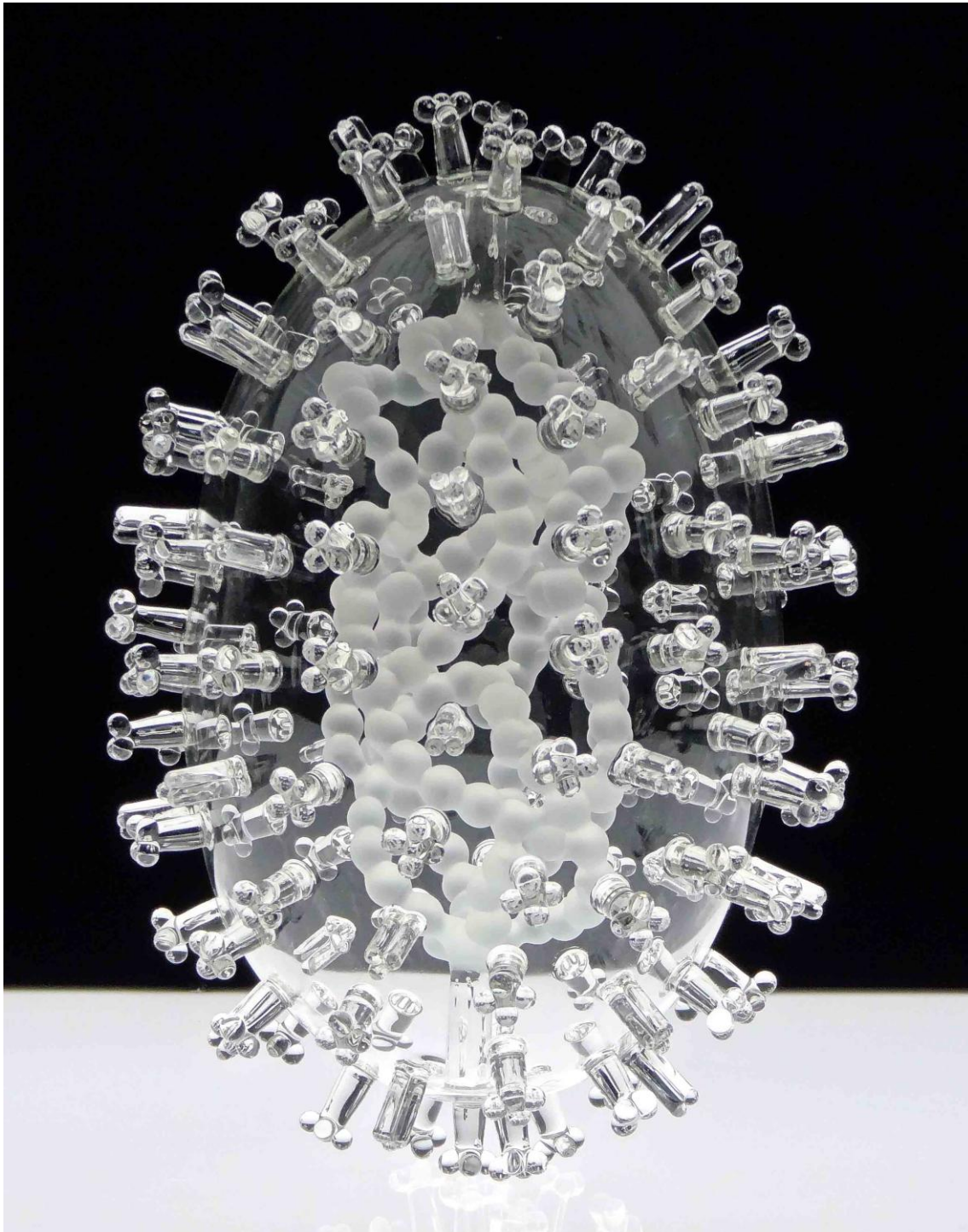
# Avian Flu

**Size:** 26cm x 17cm

**Description:**

Avian Influenza (H5N1), commonly known as Bird Flu, refers to “influenza caused by viruses adapted to birds”.

In 2009, The Mori Museum in Tokyo exhibited this work in an exhibition called *Medicine and Art*, with works from Damien Hirst, Andy Warhol, Marc Quinn and Leonardo da Vinci.



# Bubonic Plague

**Size:** 38cm x 14cm

**Description:**

The Bubonic Plague is an infectious disease caused by the Bacterium *Yersinia Pestis*. It was the cause of the Black Death that swept through Asia, Europe, and Africa in the 14th century and killed an estimated 50 million people, about 25% to 60% of the European population.

This sculpture was first created for Museum Het Valkhof's *Plague* exhibition in 2021.



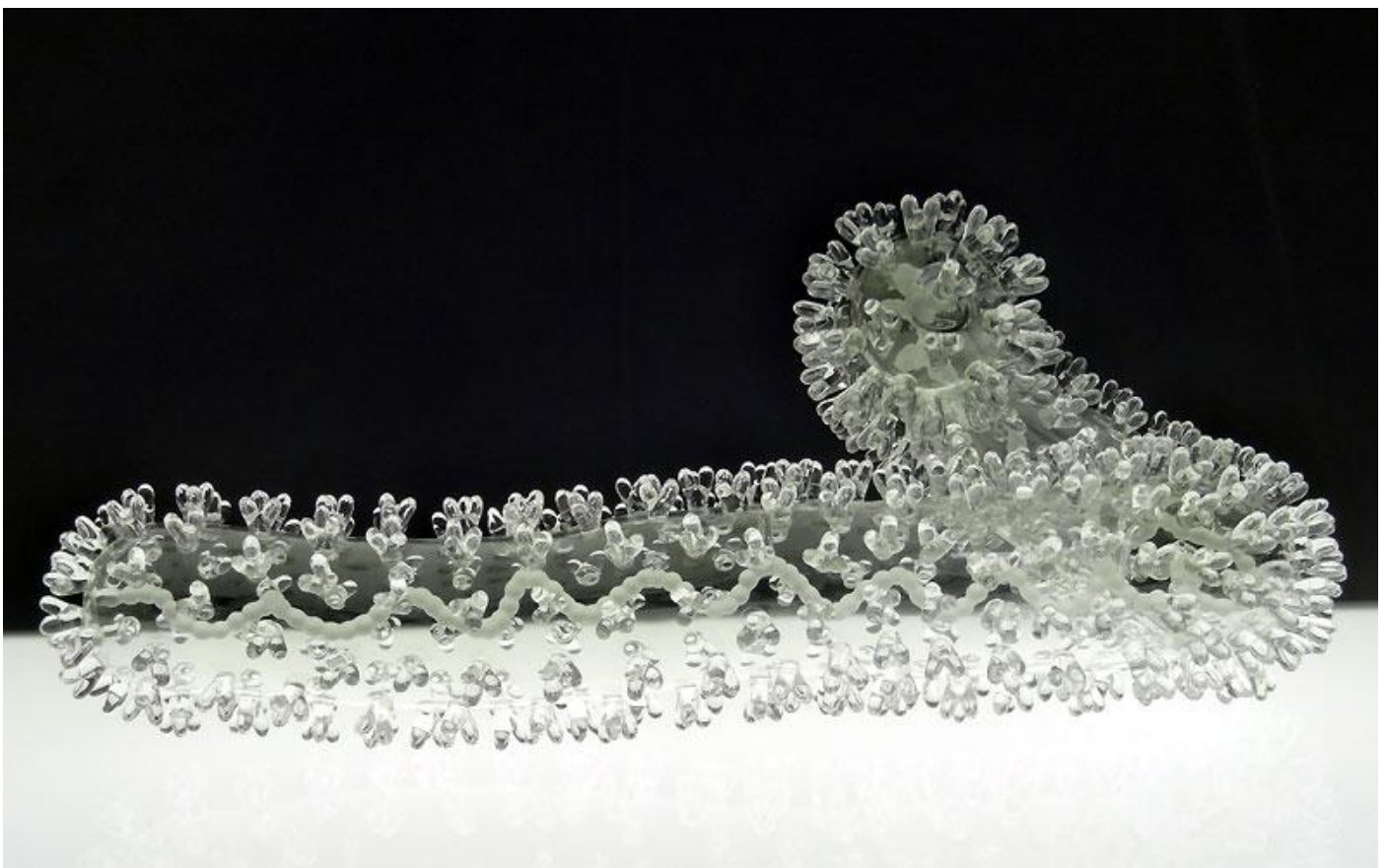
# Ebola

**Size:** 50cm x 35cm x 24cm

**Description:**

Ebola haemorrhagic fever (EHF) is a viral haemorrhagic fever and one of the most virulent viral diseases known to humankind. The name comes from the Ebola River in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where it was first found.

One of the most complex glass artworks Jerram's team have created to date, the sculpture was commissioned for Artis Royal Zoo, Amsterdam, Holland. An edition of this work is also in the Wellcome Collection in London.



# EV71 Hand, Foot and Mouth

**Size:** 23cm diameter

## **Description:**

Enterovirus 71 (EV71) is one of the major causative agents for hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD).

This virus is a member of the enterovirus species A. It appears to have evolved only recently with the first known strain isolated in 1965. It was associated with an outbreak of neurological disease in the United States in 1969.



## How to Acquire

Payments can be made online by BACs transfer. We will send you an invoice.

Glass Microbiology sculptures are available for optional viewing by private appointment in Luke Jerram's UK studio or online.

We offer free worldwide transportation and expert advice to help you choose the perfect piece for your collection.

All works are limited editions of 5, except where stated.

Measurements are approximate as each piece is handmade and unique.

## Contact Information:

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Location: Bristol, UK

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## About the Artist

Luke Jerram is renowned for his captivating, thought-provoking artworks that explore the intersection of art and science. His multidisciplinary practice involves the creation of sculptures, installations and live art projects. Living in the UK but working internationally since 1997, Jerram has created several extraordinary art projects which have excited and inspired people around the world. Since his career began Luke Jerram has had over 1,000 exhibitions around the world.



*Museum of the Moon by Luke Jerram*

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This catalogue provides an overview of the artworks available for sale. Should you need further customisation or additional details for any specific piece, please feel free to ask!