## **Artist Statement**

Antonis Koutouzis, a distinguished Visual Artist and fabricator, specializes in the intricate art of glasswork, residing and creating in the historic glassmaking hub of Murano, Italy. His oeuvre delves into the philosophical and sociopolitical realms, drawing from both contemporary and historical events to articulate his perspectives and provoke thought-provoking dialogue. Koutouzis's artistic practice is a homage to life itself, celebrating its beauty by laying bare its imperfections.

Koutouzis's medium of choice is glass, specifically through cast and hot glass techniques, which he employs to sculpt profound and evocative works. As he articulates: "The properties of glass make it ideal for the issues that interest me the most. Its transparency, translucency, fragility, and its ability to diffuse light, creating visual depth, make it one of the most powerful, conceptual materials an artist could work with." This affinity for glass allows Koutouzis to use it as the centerpiece of his extensive mixed media installations, designed to evoke an emotional response and stimulate critical thought.

In his art, Koutouzis masterfully transforms glass into a vehicle for exploring and communicating complex issues, inviting viewers to engage in a deeper contemplation of the world around them. Through his work, he seeks not only to reflect on the state of the world but to inspire meaningful conversations and introspection.