



From time to time I am asked '**Glass Puffin**' umm, why glass puffin?'

Well apart from glass being my art medium, the Puffin itself is a colorful and bright, not to mention rather unique looking bird, with some startling similarities to myself, if I say so myself. (See below):
- *(my own comments underlined, in brackets and italics enjoy)!*

• Taken from <http://www.projectpuffin.org/puffins.html>;

- Puffin originally meant "fatling." The name was used to describe the chubby chicks of the Manx Shearwater, with which puffin chicks were confused. In the last half of the 1800's the puffin was given the scientific name of *Fratercula arctica*, which means "little brother of the north" in Latin. *(my license plate reads 'ADJE', which was my nickname when I was younger, and also means 'little Adrian')*
- Little brother may also be interpreted as 'little friar' an allusion to the puffin's black and white plumage which is reminiscent of a friar's robes. *(I most certainly spent some time as an alter boy in the Netherlands with similar garb).*
- A second connotation of little friar may be drawn from the puffin's sometime habit of holding its feet together when taking off, suggestive of hands clasped together in prayer. *(A similar pose used by myself each day, although rather than in prayer – it is as per my dive into my morning swim).*
- Regardless of the scientific name, local names still abound. These include such colorful names as "clown of the ocean" *(who me? Clown around?)* and "sea parrot." *(not sure about this one, except that I do love the water, and also 'FLYING'!)*

People used to claim that a puffin was actually a cross between a bird and a fish because of its superb ability to swim underwater. *(Me to a 'T')* This allowed some people to eat puffin meat on lent and Fridays to avoid the prohibition of meat by the Catholic Church on these days. *(Not that I ever want to be considered as 'game', I am however game to 'adapt' rules and regulations to better fit the circumstances)* and so,the Glass Puffin!