

may 2013

Solar inspiration for a work by Nicolas d'Olce, interpreted in glass by Bernard Pictet, for the new Guerlain boutique, part of the Cour des Senteurs in Versailles

Designed by the architect Patricia Grosdemange, the Guerlain boutique stands at the entrance to the Cour des Senteurs, next to the gates of Château de Versailles. It draws inspiration from the tradition of artistic patronage under Louis XIV, the Sun King, and renews with the traditions of the French Court and the prestigious perfumer's history by turning to artists and the artisanship of luxury.

Guerlain architect Patricia Grosdemange masterminded the meeting between the artist Nicolas d'Olce and Bernard Pictet that produced a sculpture on glass titled *Le Big Bang des Couleurs*.

Measuring eight metres long by three metres high, this vast sculpture takes its place in the make-up area of the new boutique. It depicts a solar explosion, symbolic of the splendours of the Court of Versailles: a blast of colour that pulses through channels in the glass, a deflagration engraved in cosmic black, a gigantic drawing, a succession of "incidents/accidents" that extends across the glass, moving from gold to flame before extinguishing into blue. The finished work brings to mind the matrix for an engraving, part-way between the digital world and a Gustave Doré etching.

This is the first time Nicolas d'Olce has worked with glass rather than his usual medium of Plexiglass. His work takes place in relation to the medium whose intensity and luminosity it deflects.

Atelier Bernard Pictet had charge of the technical specifications and production of the work. At the architect's request, and in close collaboration with the artist, the studio faithfully transposed the work to glass. Each partner discovered the other's expertise in the numerous techniques - sand-engraving, varnishing, gilding and painting - that were used throughout the project.

Nicolas d'Olce's scanned original was enlarged four to five times, expanded, then meticulously retouched so as to conserve the energy of each stroke and the sensibility of the initial engraving.

Atelier Bernard Pictet then made sheets of black lacquered laminated glass that became the support for deep, irregular engravings, lightened by the application of a specific varnish.

Lastly, the engraved lines were gilded before returning the work to Nicolas d'Olce to add his bright, bold colour.



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www.bernardpictet.ru

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BIOGRAPHIES

Nicolas d'Olce

Born August 28th 1962 in Draguignan. Live and works in Paris. A graduate of the ESAG-Penninghen graphic design school in Paris, he has been showing his work since the early 1990s.

SOLO SHOWS

2012 Since Upian Gallery (Paris)
2012 Galerie Scrawitch 6bis
2011 Village Royal (Paris)
2011 Lebenson Gallery Cutlog (Paris)
2011 Galerie Scrawitch 6bis (Paris)
2011 Lebenson Gallery (Paris)
2010 Espace Commines (Paris)
2009 Espace Courrèges (Paris)
2008 Espace ECART (Paris)
2008 Designer's Days (Paris)
2004 - 2007 Galerie Paule Friedland (Paris)
2007 Village Royal (Paris)
2007 Atelier Lacourrière-Frélaut (Paris)
2006 Galerie T.A.F
2001 Orangerie du Sénat - Jardin du Luxembourg (Paris)
1998 Alliance Française (Singapore)
1994 Espace Commines (Paris)

GROUP SHOWS

2012 ProArt Gallery (Dubai)
2012 Centre d'art Elephant Paname (Paris)
2011 Biennale d'Issy-les-Moulineaux
2008 Galerie Hufkens (Brussels)
2008 Art Sénat - Jardin du Luxembourg (Paris)
2007 Parcours Saint Germain (Paris)
2006 Estampa (Madrid)
2003 Biennale d'Issy (Issy les Moulineaux)
2003 Art Sénat - Jardin du Luxembourg (Paris)
2003 Art Paris - Atelier Lacourrière-Frélaut (Paris)
2001 Galerie Hotel de Retz (Paris)
1998 Unesco - Centre culturel de Fort de France
1996 Winner, Fondation COPRIM (Paris)
1996 SAGA - Atelier Franck Bordas (Paris)
1996 Salon de Montrouge (Île de France)
1995 Salon de Bagneux (Île de France)
1996 Galerie Claude Lemand Livres d'artistes (Paris)
1995 SAGA - Atelier Franck Bordas (Paris)

PUBLICATIONS

Éditions Scrawitch: Fil Conducteur (lithographs and engravings)
Atelier Franck Bordas: Lithographs
Atelier Lacourrière-Frélaut: Lithographs
Éditions Albin-Michel: Paroles de Révolte

PRESS

Le Monde, Libération
Magazines: New York Times Magazine, Numéro, Marie-Claire 2, Le Monde 2, Figaro Madame, Soon Magazine, Iconofly, Code d'Acces.

BRANDS CURATING

Courrèges Design, Tommy Hilfiger, Kenzo, Lancôme, Make up For Ever, Sharp, Trois O, Lacoste, GDF.

Patricia Grosdemange

Artistic director for architecture and design at Guerlain Interior and product designer

From an early age, Patricia Grosdemange showed a fascination for painting and sculpting, and an obsession with drawing that would take her, still a child, to lessons at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts from where she would ultimately graduate top of her year.

She spent the next five years working alongside Didier Gomez, her introduction to the world of luxury and brands. Yves Saint Laurent, Mauboussin, Pierre Bergé's office at the Bastille Opera, townhouses and restaurants... this was a world she would never leave, drawn to its high expectations that take the emotions of beauty to the ultimate level.

A passion for brands and their opportunities for expression, and for the mechanics that drive a point of sale brought her to the Luxury division at l'Oréal, where she shaped the concept for numerous brands, including Helena Rubinstein, Lancôme and Armani. This adventure in point-of-sale marketing led her to Japan, where she spent 18 months with the Shu Uemura brand. The retail brand experience would combine with the Japanese art of composition: excellence at every level and an impression of lightness completed her conception of luxury.

A fundamental design that defies time and instils meaning in its totality, down to the smallest detail, but also a poetic, artistic design imbued with emotion. Henceforth, this would be the cornerstone of her work, built around the two themes of art and craftsmanship.

At end 2004, Patricia Grosdemange joined Guerlain, initially to develop a luxurious and unique identity for the brand's points of sale, including the design of its retail outlets around the world, including on Rue des Francs Bourgeois, Rue de Passy and Rue Tronchet in Paris, and stunning concessions at the Printemps and Galeries Lafayette Hausmann department stores. Since 2011, she has shaped Guerlain's style with her creations for packaging and fragrance bottles, always in keeping with Guerlain's tradition that content and container should echo each other. Together, perfumes and bottles tell the same, magical story.

The boutique in Versailles embodies a new vision of the brand in an expression of its expertise and France's tradition of craftsmanship. Bridging past and present, the boutique is also destined to be a meeting-place for the finest craftsmen and artists. Patricia Grosdemange has always worked alongside these artisans of style. They are nothing without each other; the climate is one of great mutual respect.

Style sits within an era, but is always guided by a sense of balance, a desire for unexpected forms and combinations. Excellence in execution and an instinct for detail bring them together to diffuse a gentle and luxurious atmosphere.

Each boutique is a succession of experiences that leaves no one unmoved; it is a journey to the heart of the brand that sparks the emotions and arouses the senses.

Atelier Bernard Pictet

Glass for interior design and architecture

From its studio in central Paris, for more than 30 years Atelier Bernard Pictet has been designing and producing original and luxurious glass products.

The studio works with the foremost interior designers for an international clientele, and exports 80% of its production.

It advises and accompanies clients for a wide range of projects that combine glass with art, interior design and architecture, and responds to all types of requests concerning glass products, from feasibility studies to production and installation.

The studio makes only bespoke, commissioned pieces and is constantly inventing new materials and effects, sometimes in collaboration with the client.

It approaches each project as a joint endeavour between the architect who determines the space, the environment and the direction to follow, and the studio which defines technical specifications and makes the finished piece.

Glass by Atelier Bernard Pictet adorns the head offices of world-class companies, luxury boutiques, elegant homes, museums and prestigious hotels.

In addition, Atelier Bernard Pictet works closely with artists, tuning itself to their ideas and transcribing their work into the medium of glass. It also incorporates video art into its production.

The studio is highly regarded within the luxury segment for the extreme sophistication and decorative impact of its glass. It is also known for the diversity of its research that extends beyond the creation of materials and effects.

It is this boundary-bridging approach that gives Atelier Bernard Pictet its originality and its capacity to create truly exclusive products.

Bernard Pictet studio has been awarded "Entreprise du Patrimoine Vivant". The studio is also part of prestigious associations concerned with promoting their exceptional savoir-faire in France and around the world.

- Grands Ateliers de France
- Prestige et Tradition
- AFEX (Architectes Français À l'Export)