

MATHIEU LEHANNEUR SPRING

8 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

PRESS KIT



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR | LES CORDES & LIQUID ALUMINUM LOW TABLE | 2014 / 2016

PREVIEW WEDNESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2016, 6 – 9 PM

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MATHIEU LEHANNEUR

SPRING

EXHIBITION FROM 8 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

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SPRING | EXHIBITION VIEW

2016

3D RENDERING

COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR

SPRING | A WORLD OF FLUX

"There is in this exhibition a joyful and optimistic idea of a renaissance."

- Mathieu Lehanneur

In his 'Spring' exhibition at Carpenters Workshop Gallery in London, Mathieu Lehanneur takes us into a world of flux. As if the cycle of the seasons and nature's forces have specially looked at the fate of objects... Here, the artist-designer with a passion for science, grapples with ancestral materials in order to suffuse them with plasticity, fluidity and tone.

The works in the 'Spring' exhibition seem to hesitate between solid, liquid and gaseous. They appear to be suspended mid-transformation in a poetic state of metamorphosis. Marble and aluminium become liquid, onyx becomes air and glass softens as in a return to its original state.

Although the function of each piece is easily recognised (table, chandelier, lamp), the works transcend such definitions. Their movement and suggested dynamic state force you to question what you thought was true to the point where it seems even the inert is being revived.

The presence of glass accompanies all pieces like a transparent skin protecting the object's soul. Glass is worked in multiple forms using traditional craft methods: curved tubes for 'Les Cordes' chandelier, hand blown glass globes for the new version of the 'S.M.O.K.E.' lamps, ribbed glass on 'Spring' lamps and laminated panels on the 'Liquid' tables. The materials are all worked in their natural color, in their native condition, almost primitive. But this apparent simplicity belies a highly sophisticated technical and technological implementation.

The 'Liquid Aluminium' and 'Liquid Marble' tables were designed, for example, using 3D special effects software created for the film industry and the designer sought advice from laboratory equipment manufacturing experts in order to bend the curved glass tubes of 'Les Cordes'.

Mathieu Lehanneur, the designer of 'Tomorrow Is Another Day', a wall light installation that conjures up the daily rhythm of weather changes, and of a work for Audemars Piguet that saw rocks apparently levitating mid air, continues on his optimistic quest to soften our world and bring us joy.



"There is always a kind of disappointment when the material becomes fossilized in its natural state. The bright and bubbling lava crystallizes into black pebbles, the incandescent glass paste neutralizes and cools off... I tried to revive the matter and make it walk the opposite way. Towards a return to life" (...)

- Mathieu Lehanneur

MATHIEU LEHANNEUR
LES CORDES AND SPRING LAMPS
2014 / 2016
3D RENDERING
COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR

MATHIEU LEHANNEUR
SPRING LAMP
MARBLE, HAND MADE GLASS TUBES, FLEXLED
2016
3D RENDERING
COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR

(...) "An object is successful when the technical feat that allowed its creation gives way to its aesthetic appeal, its desirability."

- Mathieu Lehanneur





MATHIEU LEHANNEUR | LIQUID MARBLE
2016
INSTALLATION AT THE LONDON V&A
3D RENDERING
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

'LIQUID MARBLE' AT THE VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM LONDON DESIGN FESTIVAL | 17 – 25 SEPTEMBER 2016

"I was inspired by the contrast between the deep silence of 'Liquid Marble' and the luxurious decor of the Norfolk House Music Room, where the most beautiful symphonies were hosted."

- Mathieu Lehanneur

As part of London Design Festival 2016 (17 – 25 September 2016) award-winning designer Mathieu Lehanneur installs another spectacular work from his 'Liquid Marble' series in the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Located in the V&A's exquisite Norfolk House Music Room throughout London Design Festival, 'Liquid Marble' evokes a surreal vision of the sea, mimicking the look and feel of rippling water.

Made of a single piece of hand-polished black marble, and designed using advanced 3D moviemaking software, 'Liquid Marble' reproduces the visual effect of a sea surface, gently ruffled by the wind. The structure reflects and distorts itself, and the intense black of the marble accentuates the colour of the ocean as if fossilized in stone.

'Liquid Marble' will be presented on a 30cm high pedestal, offering viewers a close-up experience of the enigmatic effect of contrasting materials – both liquid and solid at the same time – and encouraging contemplation.

In this installation - a variation of Lehanneur's ongoing series exploring the materiality of marble – the designer combines his passion for design, science, technology and art, and introduces an alchemic combination: nourished by science, and with a metaphysical approach.

'Liquid Marble' invites the visitors to experience the most innovative processes whilst letting the mind wander in the movements of the sea, for a moment of meditative reflection.

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MATHIEU LEHANNEUR
 LES CORDES (PARIS)
 2014
 HAND MADE GLASS TUBES, FLEXLED
 H90 L250 W150 CM
 H35.4 L98.4 W59.1 IN
 LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP
 COURTESY
 CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

MATHIEU LEHANNEUR | Q & A

'Les Cordes' and 'Liquid Marble' both use new technology, what for you is the perfect balance between aesthetic beauty and technological innovation?

I use complex and technological fabrication processes, and sometimes even experimental methods, and this, at all steps of development. But, the finished piece should not be a technical demonstration or a tribute to the technology. It needs to be obvious, a relation between the work and you.

A piece becomes beautiful when we do not need to question the innovation. I also like to say that they are the works of their time, and that they could not have been created before today, due to the technologies or of the available processes.

Is there a new design technology that you are keen to experiment with but you haven't yet had the chance?

I have since many years been interested in research conducted on the knowledge of the brain. Paradoxically, our vital core and thinking is the organ the least known part of our body. Yet each object, each work of art does not exist until they are seen, treated and analyzed by our brain. So, we know now, not to look at the world objectively, it lies to us and distorts reality. I reflect to have an attempt to understand and control this filter that produces wonders in our brain.

'Liquid Marble' and 'Liquid Aluminum' are fascinating on a technical level, but what can you tell us about it on an artistic level? Are you inspired by nature, the sea, the weather for example?

'Liquid Marble' and 'Liquid Aluminum', even if they use contemporary technologies they are part that of a long artistic tradition, aim to attract and attach those who are elusive and fleeting by nature. The Impressionists clung to reproduce the imperceptible variations of light, the Futurists worked to realize movement and speed with paintings or sculpture...

These works are a little like that: they fix the movement as a frozen image and play with the constant reflections of light on their polished surface. Otherwise, I would like that this series, 'Liquid', creates a certain ambiguity of its materials, in a state of transition, at the border of liquid and solid.

Where did your original inspiration for 'Les Cordes' come from?

Convention has long considered that architects have a mission to design "boxes" to live in, and that designers must be in charge to fill it. I have always found this division simplistic, against-productive and susceptible to creating inconsistencies between the box and its contents.

'Les Cordes' is an attempt to merge and reconciliation between architecture and design. As a thread of glass and light stitched into the ceiling, this chandelier leaves its object's status to become, as by magic, intimately linked to architecture.

Your projects to date have been pretty spectacular and often seem to defy the laws of nature. Do you have an ultimate design ambition that you are yet to achieve?

I developed a few years ago the project 'Age of the World'. The principle is to use the demographic pyramids of ages from different countries (supplied by the UN) to make ceramic or marble objects that can transmit history, the evolution and current situation of each country.

At this moment, I created 15 different countries, but I dream to be able to perform all of them: 197 countries on this planet! I dream of presenting them together, in the same place. It's a way to realize the world mixing history, geopolitics and the emotion to see in this way, in front of our eyes, the materialization of all today's living humans.

Many people find beauty in the aesthetic simplicity of your works, specifically the minimal palette of white and grey, can you tell us about why you choose these tones and your relationship as a designer with color?

I do keep the white, the grey and transparency, but it is true that I work here in more onyx colors from pale rose to green, or with marble very close to the tints of light wood.

This aspect gives living character to pieces, almost vibrant. Worked in glossy finish or very crude, these colors create a disturbance between the natural and the artificial, half-way between the flower petal and candy ...



ABOUT | MATHIEU LEHANNEUR

At the forefront of the international design scene, Mathieu Lehanneur is one of the few designers of his generation with a genuine multi-disciplinary approach to creativity: his projects stretch the realms of product design and objet d'art to architecture, craft and technology. Lehanneur thrives on creating spectacular projects that are intended to enchant and to encourage wellbeing. His work defies traditional descriptions of 'design', 'science' or 'art' - led.

Ranked among the '100 World top designers and influencers' by Wallpaper and Surface magazines, Mathieu Lehanneur is described as the 'champion of intellectual agility in the field of contemporary design' by Paola Antonelli, Senior Curator, Department of Architecture and design at MoMA, NY.

Mathieu Lehanneur's office collaborates with a number of prestigious brands across a wide variety of sector including Nike, Veuve Clicquot, Audemars Piguet, Kenzo, Poltrona Frau, Pullman Hotels, Cartier, Schneider Electric, JCDecaux, Becton Dickinson and Sony. Lehanneur is also a partner in several startups in the areas of technology and transport.

Since 2015, Mathieu has been the Chief Designer of Huawei. His portfolio includes also limited edition series represented by the Carpenters Workshop Gallery.

Mathieu Lehanneur has earned numerous awards including the 'Grand Prix' for creativity, awarded by the City of Paris, and the 'Best Invention Award' by US magazine Popular Science for 'Andrea', a plant home air filtration system, created in partnership with Harvard University and based on studies developed by NASA.

In 2009, the designer was invited to present his approach at the TED Global conference and, in 2012, Gestalten editions published a book dedicated to his work. A retrospective exhibition of his work was held at the Grand Hornu - Innovation and Design Centre, in Belgium.

Mathieu Lehanneur's projects can be found among some of the most renowned public and private collections including the MoMA-NY and SFMOMA, the Pompidou Centre and the Museum of Decorative Arts, Paris. Mathieu Lehanneur has recently completed the interior design of the café Mollien at the Louvre Museum, and a collection of solar street lighting furniture based on a new concept was launched during the United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Paris.

He won the interior design competition for the Grand Palais, Paris, and he is currently working on a hybrid engine boat, a foldable electric bike, a gluten-free restaurant design project, and pharmaceutical design.

IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR
LES CORDES (HAND MADE GLASS TUBES, FLEXLED)
LIQUID ALUMINUM LOW TABLE (ALUMINUM, GLASS)
2014 / 2016
3D RENDERING
COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR
SPRING LAMP
MARBLE, HAND MADE GLASS TUBES, FLEXLED
2016
3D RENDERING
COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR

IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR
LES CORDES AND SPRING LAMPS
2014 / 2016
3D RENDERING
COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR
SPRING EXHIBITION VIEW
2016
3D RENDERING
COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR

IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR | LES CORDES (PARIS)
2014
HAND MADE GLASS TUBES, FLEXLED
H90 L250 W150 CM / H35.4 L98.4 W59.1 IN
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR | LES CORDES (PARIS)
2014
HAND MADE GLASS TUBES, FLEXLED
H90 L250 W150 CM / H35.4 L98.4 W59.1 IN
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR | LES CORDES (PARIS) | DETAIL
2014
HAND MADE GLASS TUBES, FLEXLED
H90 L250 W150 CM / H35.4 L98.4 W59.1 IN
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR | LIQUID MARBLE
3D RENDERING OF THE V&A'S INSTALLATION
2016
BLACK POLISHED MARBLE, MATT BLACK LACQUERED STEEL
H30 L400 W170 CM / H11.9 L177.2 W78.8 IN
UNIQUE
COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR | LIQUID MARBLE
3D RENDERING OF THE V&A'S INSTALLATION
2016
BLACK POLISHED MARBLE, MATT BLACK LACQUERED STEEL
H30 L400 W170 CM / H11.9 L177.2 W78.8 IN
UNIQUE
COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR



MATHIEU LEHANNEUR | PORTRAIT
2016
COURTESY STUDIO MATHIEU LEHANNEUR



JULIEN LOMBRIL & LOÏC LE GAILLARD AT CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY | NEW YORK
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

COLLECTIBLE DESIGN TODAY

Carpenters Workshop Gallery produces and exhibits functional sculptures by international rising and already established artists and designers going outside their traditional territories of expression.

Actively involved in the research and production of the limited edition works exhibited, the gallery's choices are guided by the research of an emotional, artistic and historical relevance; a relevance that appears as an evidence.

The gallery relies on the partnership of childhood friends, Julien Lombrail and Loïc Le Gaillard. They first opened a space in London's Chelsea in 2006 in a former carpenter's workshop; they then followed with a second space in Mayfair in 2008.

The opening of a 600 square metre space in Paris in 2011 in the heart of Le Marais district, an address steeped in history as it was previously occupied by the Galerie de France for several decades, was a return to their roots.

2015 marked a major turning point for the gallery with the opening of Carpenters Workshop | Roissy, a unique 8,000 meter square space dedicated to artistic research and development, bringing together the elite of artisans, an homage to the French heritage of 'Arts Décoratifs'.

Carpenters Workshop Gallery | New York is the latest step in the gallery's remarkable development. This new space confirms the leadership and dominant position of the gallery in today's international territory of art and design.

Starting September 2016 and until June 2017, the gallery will be celebrating its ten year anniversary, with a special program of exhibitions, events and many surprises dedicated to a decade at the forefront of collectible design.



LONDON | CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

MATHIEU LEHANNEUR SPRING

EXHIBITION FROM 8 TO 30 SEPTEMBER TO 2016

LONDON | CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

3 ALBEMARLE STREET W1S 4HE, LONDON

PREVIEW WEDNESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2016, 6 – 9 PM

CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY
COLLECTIBLE DESIGN TODAY

PROGRAM | SEPT-DEC 2016

PARIS | **ART LIGHT** group show, 6 September – 12 October

NEW YORK | **VLADIMIR KAGAN** ANNECY, 20 September – 29 October

EXPO CHICAGO | 23 – 25 September

PAD LONDON | 3 – 9 October

LONDON | **VINCENZO DE COTIIS** solo show, 6 October – 16 December

PARIS | **NACHO CARBONELL** solo show, 20 October – 17 December

NEW YORK | **INGRID DONAT** ORIGINS, 10 November – 17 December

DESIGN MIAMI/ | 30 November – 4 December

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NACHO CARBONELL
WENDELL CASTLE
VINCENZO DE COTIIS
INGRID DONAT
VINCENT DUBOURG
JOHANNA GRAWUNDER
STUART HAYGARTH
MATHIEU LEHANNEUR
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