

NEW YORK | CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

10

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF COLLECTIBLE DESIGN

# INGRID DONAT ORIGINS

10 NOVEMBER – 17 DECEMBER 2016

PRESS KIT



INGRID DONAT AT CARPENTERS WORKSHOP | ROISSY  
2016 © ARNO LAM

CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY  
693 FIFTH AVENUE NY 10022

press contacts

Americas Carla Colón & Andrey Furmanovich | + 212 228 5555 | [cwg@nadinejohnson.com](mailto:cwg@nadinejohnson.com)

CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

World Lindsey Marsh & Timothée Nicot | + 33 1 71 19 48 01 | [lmash@communicart.fr](mailto:lmash@communicart.fr) | [tnicot@communicart.fr](mailto:tnicot@communicart.fr)

# INGRID DONAT

## ORIGINS

EXHIBITION FROM 10 NOVEMBER TO 17 DECEMBER 2016

### CONTENT

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION	p. 3 - 6
ABOUT   INGRID DONAT	p. 7 - 8
INGRID DONAT   Q&A	p. 9
INGRID DONAT   AN EXCLUSIVE MONOGRAPH	p. 10
ABOUT CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY	p. 11
ABOUT CARPENTERS WORKSHOP   ROISSY	p. 12
IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS	p. 13 - 17
PRACTICAL INFORMATION	p. 18

---

press contacts

Americas Carla Colón & Andrey Furmanovich

+ 212 228 5555 | [cwg@nadinejohnson.com](mailto:cwg@nadinejohnson.com)

World Lindsey Marsh & Timothée Nicot

+ 33 1 71 19 48 01 | [lmash@communicart.fr](mailto:lmash@communicart.fr) | [tnicot@communicart.fr](mailto:tnicot@communicart.fr)

## INGRID DONAT | ORIGINS



Celebrating a year since the inauguration of the new Carpenters Workshop Gallery in New York, the gallery will hold 'Origins' a retrospective of Ingrid Donat's work.

The exhibition coincides with the launch of a monograph dedicated to the artist's work. This is the first in-depth study of Ingrid Donat, and it is written by acclaimed decorative arts author Anne Bony with the input of renowned interior designer Peter Marino. The monograph takes a look at the last 30 years of the artist's career as it explores an analytical perspective of her series including her most recent work.

In this long-awaited exhibition, the gallery will unveil new works by Ingrid Donat as well as showcase pieces that demonstrate the evolution of her work over her 30 year career.

Ingrid Donat became interested in sculpture during her foundation studies at Paris École des Beaux Arts. At the time, she was side-tracked by the responsibilities of motherhood, and it seemed impossible to juggle both. Yet, it was not long before she saw her artistic tendencies as a feasible career choice.

Ingrid Donat was always creating; she first made lamps as presents for friends and family before eventually creating larger pieces of furniture for the house. When her children were older, a friend encouraged her to sell these works. It was the overwhelming response from this first sale that convinced her that she could turn this talent into a career.

Over these first three decades of her career Ingrid Donat committed herself to continuous technical improvement, material sourcing and historical research into the artists and designers who inspired her. This exhibition will show the variation in her sculptural designs and the wide range of materials and techniques that are employed in her oeuvre.



INGRID DONAT | CABINET KLIMT | 2015  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



INGRID DONAT | BANC TRIBAL  
2014  
BRONZE, LEATHER  
H34.5 L111 W39 CM / H13.6 L43.7 W15.3 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

## TRIBAL INFLUENCES

Ingrid Donat's most recent works show clear signs of her inspiration taken from tribal art. This is an exploration of her origins and roots from the island of La Réunion. A taste of these new works were shown at a recent exhibition at the Carpenters Workshop Gallery's London space this Spring, and the continuation of this series will be included in the New York show.

Many pieces are decorated and inspired by tribal tattooing. For example, the bronze 'Banc Tribal' (2014) features inlaid leather disks carved into the piece with decorative relief patterns. The overall style of the piece is reminiscent of tribal tattoos that inspired the artist in the first place.

With 'Cabinet Klimt' (2015) bronze, Ingrid Donat designed the work to appear like lace. The strong material of the piece contrasts with the delicacy the artist wants to achieve. Thus, the overall effect is one that is striking, and it requires a closer look. The repetition of circular shapes create an identity distinct to Ingrid Donat's work that have become synonymous with her style.

## ART DECO DETAILS

Ingrid Donat has mastered a variety of materials that include rich, natural resources such as bronze and leather. She also incorporates rarer materials into her work such as parchment.

Ingrid Donat's work invokes the majestic spirit of 1920s Art Deco designers such as Pierre Legrain and Armand-Albert Rateau who transformed African tribal design into luxurious works of art. The motifs she engraves recall the animal and fish skins Art Deco artists incorporated into their works to add texture.

There is an intricacy found in her engraving that Ingrid Donat was able to achieve by developing her own precise tools in order to get the exact effect needed. These tools and techniques have evolved over decades along with her style and technical approach.

Throughout her work, we see echoes of Legrain's wooden ceremonial chairs with their incorporation of symbols and patterns often found in West African tribal art. In addition, there are curves inspired by nature and those of the human body.

Ingrid Donat's bronze pieces are reminiscent of Armand-Albert Rateau's decorative engravings of animal, flora and fauna motifs. Both take basic, natural aesthetics and transform them into elegant, finely crafted and highly decorative works. She also admires the detailed patterning of Gustav Klimt's painting and brings this into her work.



INGRID DONAT | BUFFET CISCO  
2015  
BRONZE  
H87 L141 W28.5 CM / H34.2 L55.5 W11.2 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

## IN THE STUDIO

Ingrid Donat's artistic practice is consistent. Developed and created at Roissy with a team of skilled artisans, her creative process starts with a sheet of wax. She then engraves, carves and shapes the wax to form the design of her work which is then applied to her pieces. The artist engraves the bronzes, paints the upholstery, and treats the wood herself.

An example of the union of these techniques is the 'Bibliothèque Murale en 5 éléments' (2008) created in bronze with red parchment. In addition, the 'Buffet Cisco' (2015) is a limited edition bronze that shows the delicate beauty of her engraving with hypnotic circular forms. The continual pattern of shapes and circles is a distinctive trait of Ingrid Donat's work.

The 'Miroir Grenade', a new piece from 2016 is an example of how her patterns can often mimic reptile skin, a nod to Art Deco designers who often used animal skins on their pieces for added texture. She was inspired by this technique to bring the bronze alive with this reptilian texture.

Throughout her career so far, Ingrid Donat has used a range of different patinas to change the appearance of a bronze surface. Colours range from the silver of 'Table Basse Anneaux' (2008) to the burnt orange of her 'Cabinet Klimt' (2015), the black of 'Table Basse Koumba' or shimmering gold of 'Table Basse Mica' (2012).

## CREATING AN AMBIENCE

The retrospective of Ingrid Donat's work will also show how, much like those Art Deco artists who inspired her, the artist does not only create functional sculpture she often develops the sceneography of a whole room.

Ingrid Donat's 'Plaques en bois érodé (Tabak)' (2002) or the 'Plaques Mekano' (2014) panel the walls completing a closed but comforting yet inspirational space. The artist has worked with many clients around the world on the decoration of spaces completely furnished in her work. The effect is both simple and luxurious.

It is with this approach that Ingrid Donat has become known all over the world working with great interior architects such as Peter Marino, creating pieces for Chanel and Yves Saint Laurent with famous collectors of her work including Brad Pitt and Tom Ford.

## ABOUT | INGRID DONAT



INGRID DONAT  
2016 © ARNO LAM

Ingrid Donat was born in 1957, in Paris, into a family of artists. Raised in Sweden she returned to Paris in 1975 in order to pursue her passion for art and sculpture.

Developing her talent quickly, she drew inspiration from renowned artists such as César, Sylva Bernt, her partner André Arbus, and Diego Giacometti who inspired her to start sculpting furniture. In her work you can see the influences of tribal art, the Art Deco movement and organic forms of Art Nouveau. The artist only began to exhibit her work publicly in 1998, presenting a show with more than 20 years worth of work.

Her classic style remains timeless and prevalent in all of her works. She is one of the most important artists in the decorative arts market today, represented for ten years by Barry Friedman Gallery in New York, then exclusively by Carpenters Workshop Gallery since 2008. Her works and private commissions can be found within some of the most beautiful collections in the world. Even if there is only a difference of two hours between Sweden and the Reunion Island, a big cultural gap exists between the two civilisations.

The act of creation is the expression of her freedom. Raised in Sweden, she came to Paris as a young woman to live with her father. In a workshop to prepare her for the entrance exams of École des Beaux-Arts, the Atelier Delarue, she freed herself from the constraints of language and reason. Drawing became her form of expression.

She is fascinated and influenced by tribal art. For her, it is a way to grasp the matter without preconceived ideas, to celebrate a popular art that is naïve as well as having a ceremonial dimension. For some pieces, she draws her inspiration from scarification, which is divided into two distinct categories in African traditions, some are hollow and others are prominent.

Ingrid Donat's artistic approach fits naturally into this tradition of working on the skin, on the furniture's surface, an approach well served by the bronze technique. This material is very important to Ingrid Donat. She likes to exploit its diversity.

She adopts a form of necessary unlearning, in order to re-discover a process that is original, timeless and with a powerful impact. She calls on patterns and shapes that are a kind of DNA, bringing together all the creators, a fundamental link.

... / ...



INGRID DONAT | ARTBOOK CHEVET  
2011  
BRONZE, PARCHMENT  
H44 L60 W60 CM / H17.3 L23.6 W23.6 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

From a more figurative representation to a more abstract expression, Ingrid Donat's work confirms the idea that furniture and objects can be subject to a sensorial translation with patterns that flower on surface.

Ingrid Donat deals with her repertoire of signs: loops, squares, circles, rings, staples, lines, interlacing... repeated and obsessive patterns that take possession of the surface, such as a released litany. A form of rhythmic and regular writing spreading over all the surfaces of the object, on the front as well as on the reverse.

Ingrid Donat carves out her own path as an artist, she chose life as her territory of expression. The piece of art accompanies us in our daily life, a way for her to share her sensibility and to satisfy her taste for conception of a global universe. "What I like is not the piece of furniture, it is the soul of a whole house, the vibes we put inside it."

Ingrid Donat entered the world of art with humility, hesitant to anchor it to reality, she created sensual and spiritual work. Following an obsessional ritual of creation, she marks the material intuitively as the Estrucans did in the early hours of humanity.



## INGRID DONAT | Q&amp;A

INGRID DONAT | ENGRAVING WORK IN PROCESS  
© ARNO LAM

**Can you tell us about the idea of masculinity and femininity in your work ?**

My work, essentially in bronze, reflects quite naturally an idea of masculinity regarding its heaviness, cold appearance and the tribal dimension I usually gave it.

All these influences come from my father, who is native of the Reunion Island. So these inspirations are part of my roots too.

As for the feminine aspect of my work, it comes from Art Deco, which has always influenced me, and from fascinating artists such as André Groult. For me, Art Deco means sophistication, details, discretion and a feminine restraint.

**Tell us about the inspirations behind your tribal works.**

I draw from tribal art as other talented artists have already done so much, such as Picasso, Paul Klee, Brancusi. This passion for tribal arts has always possessed me through the double influence of my Creole roots and Art Deco.

The best example being Pierre Legrain, a genius who often paid tribute to Africa and whose sophistication and elegance have always been a role model for me. I used to work in an office entirely furnished by Legrain.

I also lived for a long time with masterpieces of Art Deco and modern painting. I had to learn how I would insert my work with discretion among these masterpieces.

**Do you keep on travelling for inspiration?**

I have never travelled to find inspiration! It comes from books, art history as well as from various elements that catch my attention and curiosity: fabrics, details of materials, a tattoo... and still again my roots from the Reunion Island.

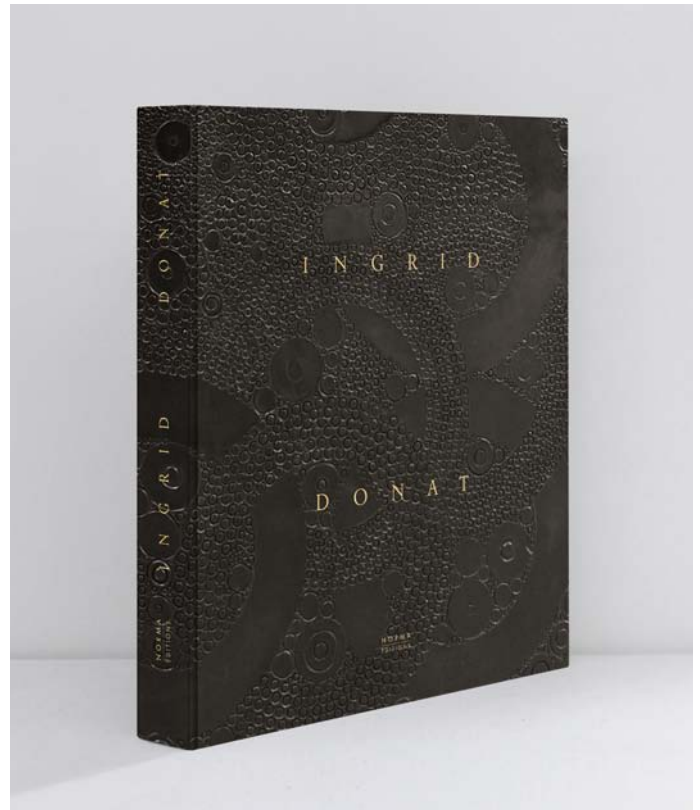
**How has your work evolved since you've been working at Carpenters Workshop Roissy?**

It is easier to work now that I am settled in my workshop at Carpenters Workshop Roissy. I am never alone during my artistic research and I can easily, follow the production from A to Z. This was not the case before.

All these different craftsmen nearby allow me to fix my imagination much quicker. Everything becomes possible.

I have the feeling that today we are increasing the sophistication of my pieces as with my latest 'Cisco' buffet for which we managed to make bronze doors with an exceptional 5-mm thickness sculpted on both sides. My ideal: sophisticated details as those incredible as by Armand-Albert Rateau.

INGRID DONAT | AN EXCLUSIVE MONOGRAPH



INGRID DONAT

Éditions Norma / Carpenters Workshop Gallery  
 304 pages  
 25 x 30.5 cm  
 Hardcover with embossing

NORMA ÉDITIONS | LAUNCH NOVEMBER 2016

On the occasion of the exhibition 'Origins', Carpenters Workshop Gallery and Éditions Norma have the pleasure of announcing the publication of the first monograph devoted to Ingrid Donat, in bookstores November 2016.

This coffee table book looks back over thirty years of creation by this exceptional designer. From her most recent series – 'Tribal', 'Klimt', 'Cisco', 'Engrenages' – to her first sculptures, nearly 200 illustrations permit the reader to plunge into the extraordinary universe of Ingrid Donat.

**Anne Bony**, a noted author in the decorative arts, examines the influences that have marked Donat's work, from André Groult and Armand Rateau to Diego Giacometti. She analyzes the different series and their sources – African and Tibetan among others.

**Peter Marino**, an acclaimed architect and collector of Ingrid Donat's works, explains in his preface his fascination for the work of one of the greatest contemporary creators.

press contacts

NORMA ÉDITIONS | MATTHIEU FLORY & CÉLINA MILLOUX

+33 (0) 1 45 48 70 96 | editionsnorma@wanadoo.fr



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 Lombraïl 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.



CARPENTERS WORKSHOP | ROISSY  
 L: EXTERIOR VIEW | R: 'VEILED IN A DREAM' BY WENDELL CASTLE IN PRODUCTION  
 COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

## CARPENTERS WORKSHOP | ROISSY

Carpenters Workshop | Roissy is the space dedicated to the artistic research and development of Carpenters Workshop Gallery. Initiated by the founders Julien Lombrail and Loïc Le Gaillard, Carpenters Workshop | Roissy is a resource for innovation alongside the preservation and transmission of artisanal techniques.

Deployed over more than 8,000 square meters in a former varnish factory this laboratory, the only one of its kind in the world, brings together the finest artisans in tribute to the French heritage of 'Arts Décoratifs: prototypists, parchment-fitters, chisellers, patina specialists, engravers, gilders, coppersmiths, blacksmiths, cabinet makers, upholsterers.

Carpenters Workshop Gallery is committed to promoting and encouraging these artisanal skills and puts them at the service of the most innovative designers and artists it represents.

Production of the pieces is entrusted to the best workshops around the world, selected by Julien Lombrail, who directly controls the finishing of each work based on its prototype that was developed at Carpenters Workshop | Roissy.

The active involvement of the gallery in research and development allows it to combine the talents necessary for the production of a work, to offer artists new possibilities and thus broaden their field of expression.

Research in the field of materials (metals, composites, structures, feasibility) is an integral part of this creative project. By developing and improving traditional techniques passed down for generations and innovating with passion, these artisans driven by creativity, bring the degree of perfection required by Carpenters Workshop Gallery.

Carpenters Workshop | Roissy aims to be a magnet for designers who are looking for ways to grow and take their creations to an ever higher level.

The space also houses studios for artists, currently occupied by Ingrid Donat (France, Sweden), Sebastian Brajkovic (Netherlands) and Wonmin Park (South Korea).

IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



INGRID DONAT | CABINET KLIMT  
2015  
BRONZE  
H117 L76 W33 CM / H46.1 L29.9 W13 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

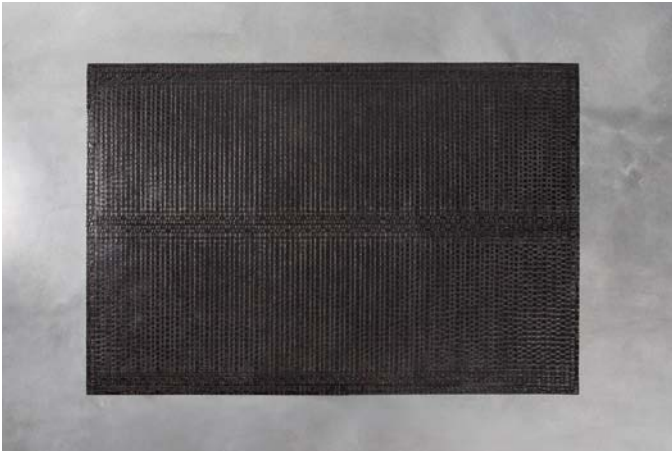


INGRID DONAT | CABINET KLIMT | DETAIL  
2015  
BRONZE  
H117 L76 W33 CM / H46.1 L29.9 W13 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



INGRID DONAT | TABLE BASSE KOU MBA  
2016  
BRONZE  
H45 L184 W125 CM / H17.7 L72.4 W49.2 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



INGRID DONAT | TABLE BASSE KOU MBA | DETAIL  
2016  
BRONZE  
H45 L184 W125 CM / H17.7 L72.4 W49.2 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



INGRID DONAT | BANC TRIBAL  
2014  
BRONZE, LEATHER  
H34.5 L111 W39 CM / H13.6 L43.7 W15.3 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



INGRID DONAT | BANC TRIBAL | DETAIL  
2014  
BRONZE, LEATHER  
H34.5 L111 W39 CM / H13.6 L43.7 W15.3 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



INGRID DONAT | ARTBOOK CHEVET  
2011  
BRONZE, PARCHMENT  
H44 L60 W60 CM / H17.3 L23.6 W23.6 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 A  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



INGRID DONAT | TABLE BASSE ANNEAUX (4 PLAQUES)  
2013  
BRONZE  
H44 L152.5 W153 CM / H17.3 L60 W60.2 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



INGRID DONAT | TABLE BASSE ANNEAUX (4 PLAQUES) | DETAIL  
2013  
BRONZE  
H44 L152.5 W153 CM / H17.3 L60 W60.2 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



INGRID DONAT | MIROIR GRENADE  
2016  
BRONZE  
H124 L87 W3 CM / H47.6 L44.9 W1.4 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



INGRID DONAT | MIROIR GRENADE | DETAIL  
2016  
BRONZE  
H124 L87 W3 CM / H47.6 L44.9 W1.4 IN  
LIMITED EDITION OF 8 + 4 AP  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY



INGRID DONAT | ENGRAVING WORK IN PROCESS  
© ARNO LAM



IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



INGRID DONAT AT CARPENTERS WORKSHOP | ROISSY  
2016 © ARNO LAM



INGRID DONAT AT CARPENTERS WORKSHOP | ROISSY  
2016 © ARNO LAM



NEW YORK | CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY  
COURTESY CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

# INGRID DONAT ORIGINS

EXHIBITION FROM 10 NOVEMBER TO 17 DECEMBER 2016

NEW YORK | CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

693 FIFTH AVENUE NY 10022

## CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY

COLLECTIBLE DESIGN TODAY

### PROGRAM | SEPT-DEC 2016

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

LONDON | MATHIEU LEHANNEUR SPRING solo show, 8 – 30 September

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

DESIGN MIAMI/ | 30 November – 4 December

### PRESS CONTACTS

AMERICAS | CARLA COLÓN & ANDREY FURMANOVICH

+ 212 228 5555 | [cwg@nadinejohnson.com](mailto:cwg@nadinejohnson.com)

WORLD | LINDSEY MARSH & TIMOTHÉE NICOT

+ 33 1 71 19 48 01 | [lmars@communicart.fr](mailto:lmars@communicart.fr) | [tnicot@communicart.fr](mailto:tnicot@communicart.fr)

REPRESENTED ARTISTS

**ATELIER VAN LIESHOUT**  
**SEBASTIAN BRAJKOVIC**  
**MAARTEN BAAS**  
**ANDREA BRANZI**  
**FERNANDO & HUMBERTO CAMPANA**  
**NACHO CARBONELL**  
**WENDELL CASTLE**  
**VINCENZO DE COTIIS**  
**INGRID DONAT**  
**VINCENT DUBOURG**  
**JOHANNA GRAWUNDER**  
**STUART HAYGARTH**  
**MATHIEU LEHANNEUR**  
**FREDERIK MOLENSCHOT**  
**NENDO**  
**RICK OWENS**  
**WONMIN PARK**  
**RANDOM INTERNATIONAL**  
**GIACOMO RAVAGLI**  
**PABLO REINOSO**  
**ROBERT STADLER**  
**STUDIO DRIFT**  
**STUDIO JOB**  
**CHARLES TREVELYAN**