

ARMEL
SOYER

DESIGN ET ARTS DÉCORATIFS
DU XXI^{ème} SIECLE

19 rue Chapon
75003 Paris

Armel Soyer Gallery is delighted to present

The exhibition **Palais** by Pierre Gonalons

From 6th February to 30th April 2015

Preview Thursday 5th February from 6pm to 8.30pm

« The diversity and structural richness of marble has fascinated me for a long time. Having loved it so much in classical architecture, I dreamed about it being reincarnated. With Palais, Pierre Gonalons has more than met this expectation, he enables us to rediscover the beauty of French polychrome marble and he reacquaints with what is utterly universal in classicism: the harmony of forms. »

Armel Soyer

5 new designs by Pierre Gonalons for the occasion:

a low table, a console table, a pedestal table, a fireplace and a bowl.

All produced from Saint-Pons de Thomières quarry marble by Marbres de France.

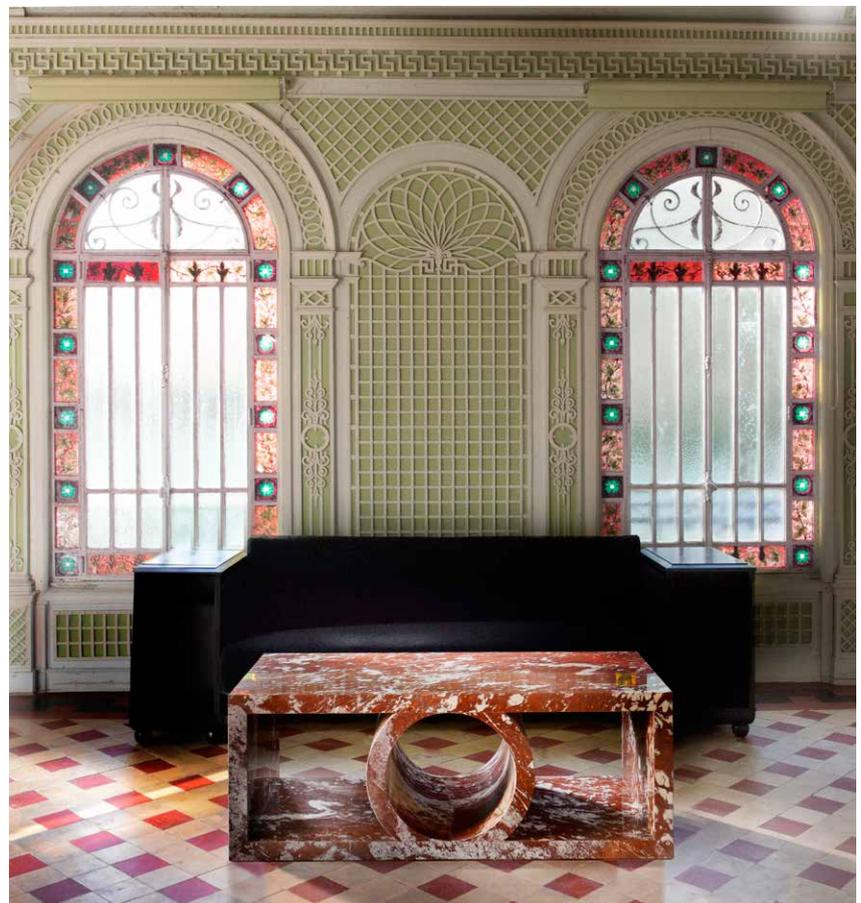
Exposition AD COLLECTIONS
Mobilier d'exception et objets
d'arts décoratifs de XXI^e siècle

march 26 - april 5, 2015

Quai d'Orsay, Ministère des
Affaires étrangères et du
Développement international,
PARIS

DESIGN MIAMI / BASEL

june 16 - 21, 2015



PALAIS.

PALAIS is a furniture collection inspired by 17th century French classicism and crafted in coloured marble.

Following the PAVILIONS collection presented in 2012 by Armel Soyer Gallery and inspired by the architecture of domes and cupolas, PALAIS is taking its inspiration from the ornamental elements of classicism.

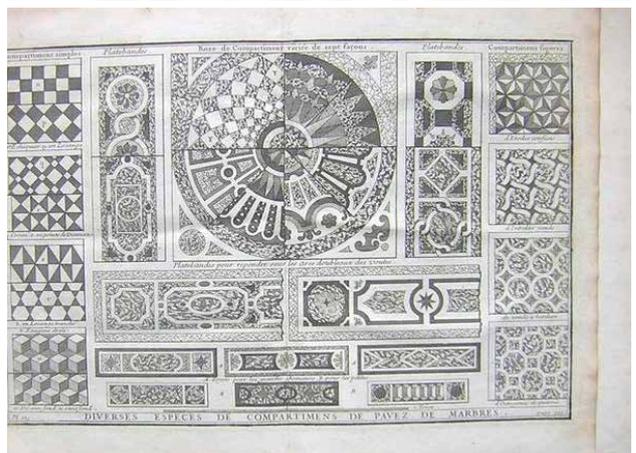
The Inspiration.

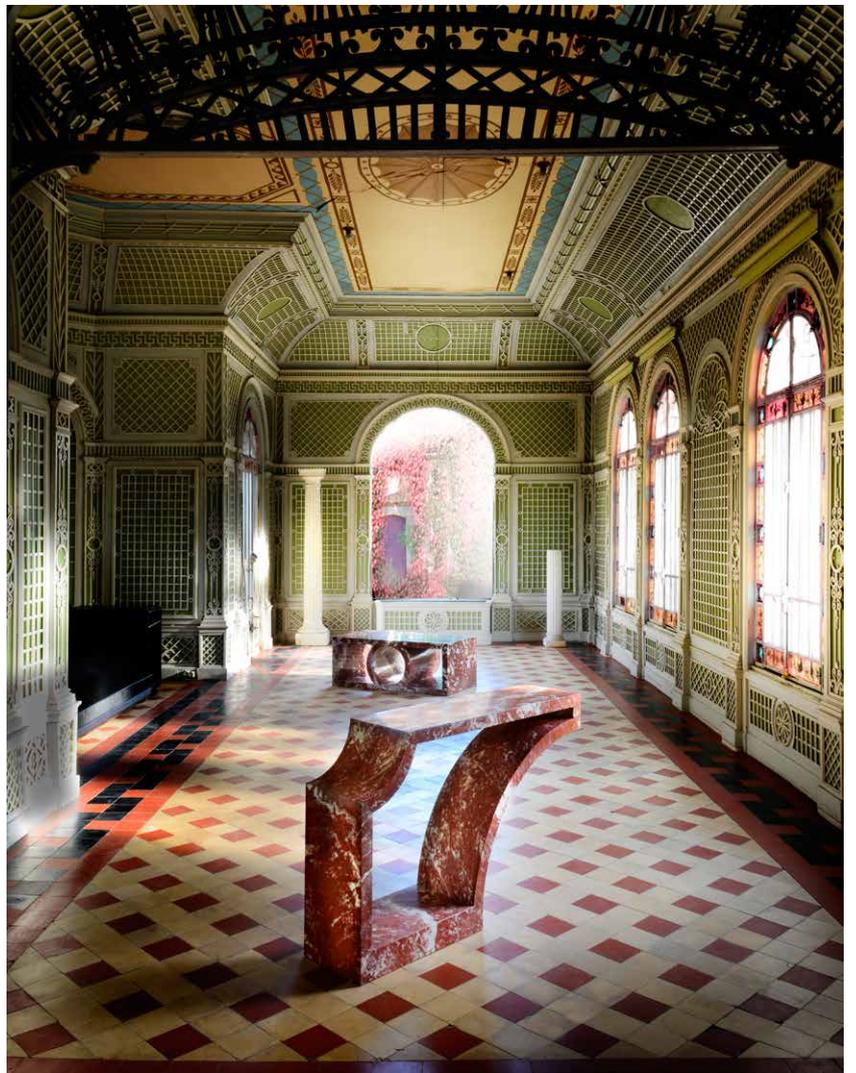
This classicism, that we have now lost sight of, can be summarised in seeking a perfect harmony of proportions and equilibrium between the whole and the detail.

From this ideal antiquity, endlessly revived over time and always reassessed in light of trends, remains some decorative elements: mouldings, fluting, compartmentalization...

How do we perceive them? Do they still resonate with us?

These decorative feats are vestiges of long-gone eras and at the same time perhaps the mere existence of a truly timeless style, and which is, in my opinion, what makes it modern.





The Material.

What other material is more able to reveal this timelessness than marble? It is the ideal medium for classical architecture. The intrinsic décor of marble with its colour and veins seems for many reasons just as contemporary as the classicism that inspired me.

I chose French marble, and in particular Rouge de Saint-Pons (red), equivalent to the one covering the Grand Trianon in Versailles. The Trianon symbolises the penchant for marble favoured by the French decorative arts throughout its history. The Fleur de pêcher and Perle de Nacre marble that are also used, are extracted from the Saint-Pons quarry and lend an essential appearance to this collection: polychrome.

The effort required for extraction and new processing techniques, like the 6-axis robot for cutting or the aluminium mesh for filtering, are real tours de force and I wanted to take part in this process by using the technique as a finishing tool.

The Project.

I wanted to convey the codes of classicism by interpreting them through the filter of our time, by differentiating them in objects where detail is paramount.

Their contours are inspired by academic drawings, but I diverted the scale and function, I changed surface into volume, added perforation where there was fluting, highlighted asymmetry where there should be symmetry... This apparent distance allows the work's message to be better recognised: to propose a reinterpretation of this formal repertory with a freedom of interpretation that reflects the poetry of its vestiges.

PALAIS is a scenario as well as an exercise in style.

This project recalls the journey between poetry and style, between dream and rigour, but above all supports a permanence of forms through an inseparable link between the past and the future.

Pierre Gonalons.

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PALAIS LOW TABLE

Pierre GONALONS

Rouge de Saint Pons Marble

L 120 x H 45 x P 60 cm

Limited edition of 8 + 2EP + 2EA

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PALAIS CONSOLE

Pierre GONALONS

Rouge de Saint Pons Marble

L 120 x H 80 x P 30 cm

Limited edition of 8 + 2EP + 2EA

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PALAIS FIREPLACE

Pierre GONALONS

Rouge de Saint Pons Marble

L 156 x H 130 x P 35 cm

Unique piece

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PALAIS PEDESTAL TABLE

Pierre GONALONS

Fleur de pêcher de Saint Pons Marble

L 40 x H 110 x P 40 cm

Limited edition of 6 + 1P

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PALAIS BOWL

Pierre GONALONS

Perle de nacre de Saint Pons Marble

L 40 x H 15 x P 40 cm

Limited edition of 6 + 2P

PIERRE GONALONS

Pierre Gonalons is a product, as well as interior designer, creative director and set designer.

Born in Lyon and influenced by Italian culture, he advocates a vision of design that combines a reflection of the decorative arts or popular culture with minimalist lines. He sees his era like an encounter between the past and the future. His work, intentionally positioned between anonymity and spectacular, prioritises giving expression to the material used and its implementation, whether modern or traditional. Beyond the simple function, the object must contain a contemporary meaning and deliver a sincere message.

In a mercilessly codified environment, he naturally avoided over-designing his creations in order to give them a chance to outlive trends. The spontaneity of the consumer approach is vital to him, just like the main role that the user must keep in his everyday ideal.



Pierre Gonalons graduated from École Camondo in 2002, founded Ascète for whom he designs, produces a collection of furniture, lights, objects and watches and step by step, chapter by chapter, builds a global and privileged universe.

At the same time Pierre Gonalons designs products for brands emphasising materials and artisanal craftsmanship, in designing the layout of a space, an event or a window or strategy for creation. Since 2004, his clients have included: Chivas Regal; Chloé; Kiehl's; Knoll; Lalique; Ligia Dias Colliers; L'Oréal Luxe; Mellerio dits Meller; Nina Ricci Parfums; Pernod; Tassinari & Chatel...

In 2011-2012, he accepted the artistic direction of the brand SIA Home Fashion.

In addition, he was voted, «Best Breakthrough Designer» by the Wallpaper Design Awards 2007, and his Designer's Day 2008 scenography for Knoll France was awarded by AD magazine.

After his first monographic exhibition PAVILIONS at the Armel Soyer Gallery in 2012, inspired by the architecture of domes and cupolas, was presented at the Solo Show at Design Miami/Basel, then at the Kortrijk Interiors Biennial. The Pavilions table joined the Bon Marché design collection.

He is back in 2015 with a new production and exhibition of marble furniture inspired by ornamental classicism: PALAIS, featured by the Armel Soyer Gallery.



CONTACT

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SCHEDULES

From Wednesday to Saturday
From 2 pm to 7 pm and by appointment