

PRESS PACK



JAPON-JAPONISMES 1867-2018

MUSEE DES ARTS DECORATIFS

PARIS

14 NOVEMBER 2018 - 3 MARCH 2019



HEART & crafts

WONDER LAB

HEART & crafts is the organiser of the WONDER LAB exhibition, the first museum exhibition dedicated to French master artisans, presented in the oldest and largest art museum in Japan in 2017.

Bringing together fifteen of the most talented French master craftsmen and women, the WONDER LAB exhibition offers a fresh perspective on contemporary creation.

From goldsmithery to ceramics, artistry with feathers, tortoiseshell glass, leather, straw, paper and textile, the excellence and diversity of French fine crafts are put on view outside of France for the first time.

The exhibition's curator, Hélène Kelmachter, an expert in contemporary art, has chosen to highlight creators with remarkable personalities, each of whom combines vocation with tradition and innovation.

Resolutely contemporary, the exhibition embarks visitors on an unparalleled aesthetic journey that intersects expertise, mediums, life journeys, and men and women who are determined to expand, reinvent and transmit their skills.

To enhance and prolong the exhibition, many peripheral activities are organised to communicate and exchange with a broader public, to foster a real intercultural and human dialogue: encounters with master artisans, symposiums with their local counter counterparts, projections and conferences in universities and childrens' workshops.

Japan was the first stop for the WONDER LAB exhibition, at the Tokyo National Museum in 2017. Its next destination is China, where it will be presented in four cities in 2018-2019, before continuing its journey in Asia and around the world.

From 14 December 2018 to 17 March 2019, HEART & crafts presents the WONDER LAB exhibition at the National Museum of China in Beijing, in collaboration with the National Museum of China in Beijing, and under the high patronage of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China and the French Ministry of Culture; with the support of the French Embassy in China, the Chinese Embassy in France and INMA (Institut Français des Métiers d'Art).



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Following the success of the WONDER LAB exhibition in Japan, HEART & crafts is honoured to participate in the JAPON-JAPONISMES exhibition at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris.

The exhibition celebrates two centuries of interconnections and mutual enrichment between France and Japan, retracing the highlights of this shared history of cultural exchanges, where artistic influences blend with creativity and boldness to reveal a field of contemporary creation that engages with art and design.

It is the continuation of the intercultural and human dialogue initiated with WONDER LAB at the Tokyo National Museum, through fifteen artists who, by constantly experimenting and pushing the boundaries of their craft, are questioning and enchanting the world.

With works inspired by Japan in a formal, technical or ornamental manner, seven of them have been invited to participate in the JAPON-JAPONISMES exhibition:

Jean Girel, ceramist, Master of Art

Michel Heurtault, umbrella and parasol creator, Master of Art

Sylvain Le Guen, fan-maker, Master of Art

Laurent Nogues, embosser-printer, Master of Art

François-Xavier Richard, hand-block wallpaper creator

Nelly Saunier, feather artist, Master of Art

Pietro Seminelli, master of pleats, Master of Art

Fine crafts are a sector in which France and Japan share a common passion. Japan remains an endless source of inspiration for French creators, and has provided a model for the recognition that Japanese creators receive. Indeed, the title of Master of Art, which was created in France in 1994, is based on the Japanese National Living Treasures.

Conference wednesday 16 January 2019, 6:30pm at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs:

“The WONDER LAB of French National Living Treasures” with Gaëlle Dupré, founder of HEART & crafts and Béatrice Quette, curator of the JAPON-JAPONISMES exhibition.

JAPON-JAPONISMES 1867-2018

From 15 November to 3 March 2019

Musée des Arts Décoratifs

107 Rue de Rivoli

75001 Paris

Metro: Palais-Royal, Pyramides or Tuileries

<http://madparis.fr>

#japonismes_MAD



HEART & crafts

HEART & crafts was created in 2012 to promote the work of master artisans in France and abroad through unique projects and prestigious encounters.

By placing human beings at the centre of its mission, HEART & crafts champions more than know-hows, it highlights the passion, talent and commitment of men and women with singular and ground-breaking journeys, the diversity and scope of their expertise, the mastery of ancestral skills and techniques that question and reinvent the world. Its mission is to:

- ▶ To contribute to the prestige of France and the promotion of French artistic crafts abroad
- ▶ To foster an inter-cultural dialogue on the common issues facing the preservation of know-hows and the future of the artistic craft sector
- ▶ To build public awareness about these know-hows, show their high skill level, but also the human aspect, the perfect relationship between mind and artistry
- ▶ To foster cultural exchanges between French and international artistic craftsmen and women.

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