

Platform of Japan designs and know-hows

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La Nature des Choses · Honsei · 本性

Contemporary interpretations of Japanese craftsmanship by François Azambourg, Architect Taitan, Fuku Fukumoto

Exhibition presented from May 30 to June 5, 2016 at the Decorative Arts Museum, Place of the launch of the 16th DDays festival (on Monday May 20)

There would be objects, matter of dialogues between the excellence of Japanese savoir-faire and design, between the craftsman and the designer, a conversation between the natural and humankind.

In «De rerum natura» (On the Nature of Things), Lucretius had the ambition to reveal the nature of the world and natural phenomena. In their encounter with wood and clay, three creators question the very essence of things, each one in an unique way.

François Azambourg presents the results of his residency in Villa Kujoyama, Kyoto. His delving in the heart of matter gives value to wood chips, a neglected material which is a significant witness of the unique skills of Japanese carpenters.

Architect Taitan expresses the traditional architecture of Kyoto into a furnishing object modulating the interior space like a landscape.

The ceramic artist Fuku Fukumoto frees herself from the aesthetic codes of Kyoto porcelain to explore the reactions of matter, guided by the instinct of gesture.

The exhibition «The Nature of Things» is produced and curated by oriented, the new promotion and diffusion platform of designs and savoir-faire from Japan, established by Sylvie Chevallier.

oriented is a structure providing advice, promotion, distribution and events programming focused on Japanese design and know-how. oriented sees itself as a key platform, a *design hub* geared to Japan, an agency to represent Japanese designers and craftsmen keen to work with Europeans. This creation potential is embodied in joint projects, exhibitions, promotion and advertising aimed at professionals: publishers, distributors, shops, galleries and consumers/collectors.

The aim of oriented is to "orientate people's vision" towards emerging Japanese designers who are unknown or little known outside Japan or Asia, as well as a new generation of craftsmen and women whose goal is to entrench ancestral skills in modern day life.

Passionate about the Japanese objects of today and yesteryear, Sylvie Chevallier brings to oriented her in-depth knowledge of Japan where she lived for some fifteen years. Her extensive network of professional contacts makes her a leading player in Franco-Japanese commercial relations in the sectors of retail, design, arts and crafts and cultural industries.

She is opening a new page in her activities with oriented.

Exhibition La Nature des Choses · Honsei · 本性

Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Salon 1900, 111 rue de Rivoli Paris 1er.

Highlights: Meetings with the designers

• François Azambourg

Architect Taitan

Monday 30 May 2016, afternoon for the press, launch of the Festival and preview tour of the Museum. Launch event from 7pm to 11pm.

Tuesday 31 May from 10am to 1pm: "La Nature des Choses", Press meeting in the salon 1900.

Open to the public from Tuesday 31 May to Saturday 4 June, 12noon - 7pm, closure at 6pm on 5 June

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Avec le soutien de Sokyo Gallery