

CHIC Magazine Noé Interview Clipping Contents

Collision Space

Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance would rather that each project has its own unique scenario, sustained without being distinguished in any way by a use, a form, a material or an aesthetic... Noé graduated from École nationale supérieure des arts décoratifs, Furniture Department – Paris, and got the Metal Sculpture DMA in Paris.

Working with crystal requires knowledge and patience, and I was intrigued by the challenge when I was asked to create the Folia collection in collaboration with Saint-Louis. Crystal is a complex material, liquid and hard, cold and warm. It is as magical as it is indomitable. As a result, each item in the collection carries its own personality. The connection between crystal and light is immediate, but as a heavy material it was important for me to infuse the design with lightness.

Crystal is a complex material, as magical as it is indomitable. It's not anyone can sculpt relatively easily.

When talking about the inspired of Folia, Noé thought inspiration comes from experiencing life and my work has always been inspired by doing, seeing, feeling, breathing. It's quite an instinctive and emotional process, by contemplating and immersing myself in the natural environment, its shapes, its materials, its lights and its systems. The shape of the cut of the crystal mimics the shape of a leaf, which is a reference to the Moselle forest that surrounds the manufactory. The wood structure for the furniture is inspired by the archive at the Manufactory, a place where all of the historical pieces are stocked on wooden shelves or boxes, it's quite magical.

The collision of Two materials wood and crystal, always make people feel magic. Noé through Folia collection tell us, balance with different materials also can make an artwork.

Natural VS Modern Function

It's more about the natural world than just nature. Inspiration comes from experiencing life and my work has always been inspired by doing, seeing, feeling, breathing. Live and be now. My tool is a combination of my inspirations (the sea) with my aspirations (being free to choose the right projects for me) and my creations (designed with honesty and the intention to create pieces that last). But you need to find your own. You need to navigate between form and function. It's a balancing act between light, shapes, lines, and meaning. It's a process that edits itself while working on it.

Mechanized Production VS Craft creation

In your opinion, what is the biggest collision between modern mechanical production and hand-made craftsmanship? In the modern society that seeks speed, how do you balance between quality and the speed of the production?

Process is important but there is more than that. Quality takes time and thought, so speed and a focus on the market is rarely the right recipe for success on the long run.

Working with your hands and having full control on the manufacturing process is for me as powerful as a beautiful day kitesurfing with the wind on your skin.