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HOW IT'S MADE

*The Sole Purpose of CHRISTIAN
LOUBOUTIN and the Secrets Behind
Fall's Most Inspiring Objects*

FALL 2012
UNTIL
OCTOBER 31



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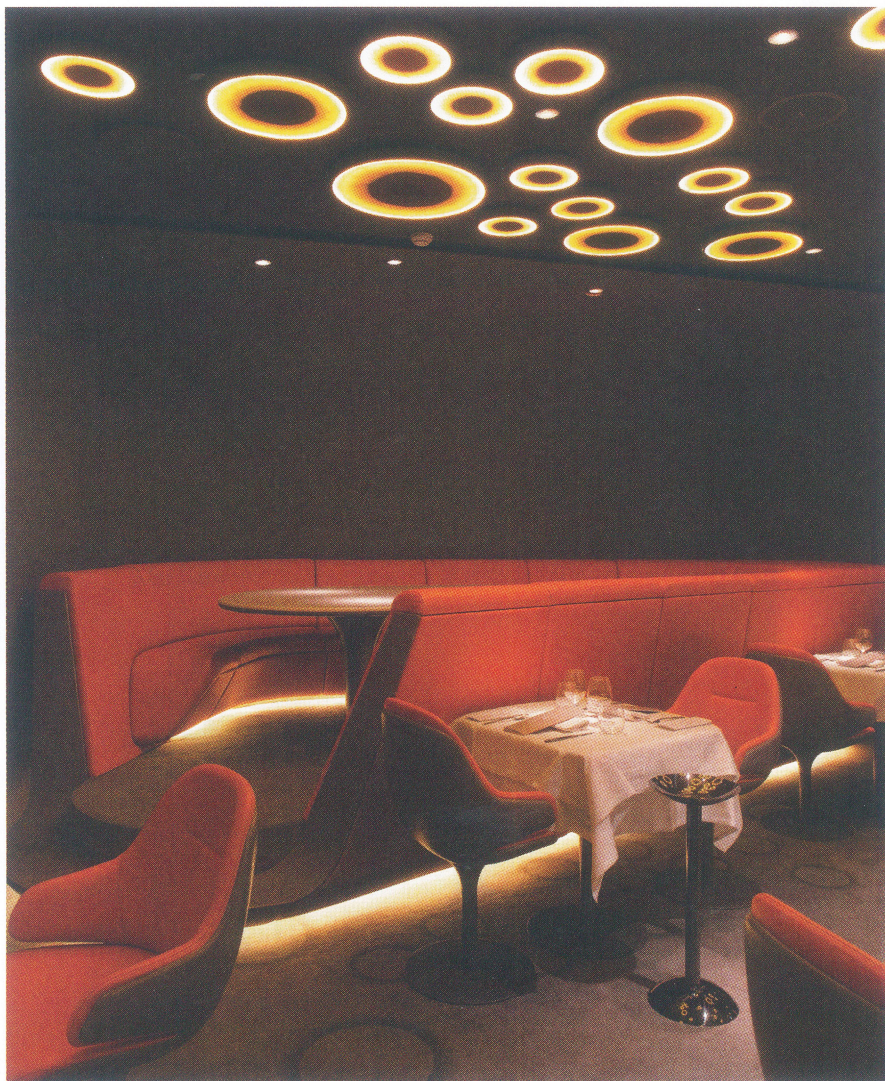
Curvaceous Connections

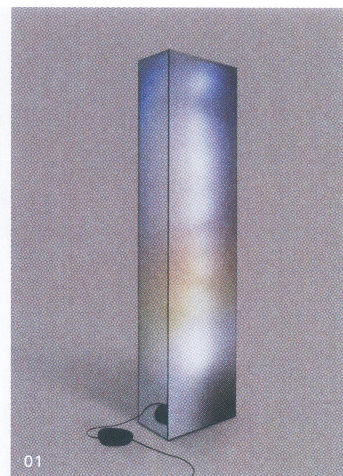
WITH HIS SIGNATURE TOUCH, **NOÉ DUCHAUFOUR-LAWRANCE** GIVES TWO VISITOR HUBS IN PARIS SOFT FORMS.

"I don't try to make myself a brand and say, 'Okay, I like nature, so I'll use it every time like a recipe,'" says the 38-year-old Paris-based designer Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance. "I really try to adapt my design and to work with the concept of a place. For me, each project is like the ground where you plant your seeds, and it grows differently depending on the ground you have." Two new projects by Duchaufour-Lawrance, both for distinctively French clients, use this approach to disparate ends. One is the restaurant Ciel de Paris, located on the 56th floor of the monolithic Montparnasse Tower, the other Air France's business-class lounge at Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport.

For Ciel (at right), Duchaufour-Lawrance created a "cozy, warm" stage out of a 4,300-square-foot framework, using subtle designs to "exaggerate and accentuate the spectacular view," he says. To do so, first he added a system of mirrors that run along the interior. Next he brought in fluid, amber-tinged custom furniture elements, including 142 resin-composite glass-fiber chairs, each made with a steel base and wrapped in Stolz leather. Duchaufour-Lawrance also installed 275 circular ceiling lights, custom-made by Artemide, which he echoed in the muted made-to-measure Tai Ping carpeting. "They're like champagne bubbles," he says of the circles. The resulting restaurant sparkles, as if it's floating atop the city itself.

At the sprawling Air France lounge (opposite), Duchaufour-Lawrance collaborated with branding agency Brandimage to establish a more restrained, economical setting—one he likens to a park—inside a 33,300-square-foot space. Tree and leaf motifs, oak paneling, and curvy lounge chairs establish the theme. So do custom tree-shaped light fixtures, each clad with aluminum branches and a perforated shade. For the space, he says, "We came back to values closest to humans: nature." Values that, as both projects make clear, underscore but don't define his work. —SPENCER BAILEY

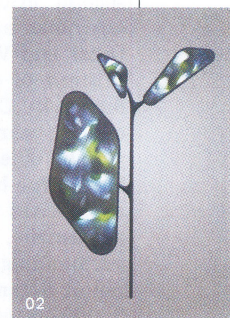




NATUROSOCIE for GALERIE BSL in Paris

A series of 12 design pieces by Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance available in limited editions of eight, Naturoscopie debuted at Design Miami in Basel in June and will be shown at Paris's Galerie BSL from Sept. 8 to Dec. 15.

(1) For this 73-inch-tall boxed Plexiglas mirror with a rotating LED inside, the viewer's reflection isn't what's important. Instead, Duchaufour-Lawrance says, it's "the creation of [the viewer's] emotion—something you can't get with a static object."



(2) This branch-like wall light, made from stainless steel, fiberglass, mirrors, and LEDs, looks as if "winds are blowing in the trees and the leaves are moving," he says.

(3) This carbon fiber, aluminum, and copper shelving system mimics "the microscopic shapes that you can find in nature," he says, and is "all about the structure."—S.B.

