

COLAB
ART+FONCTION



Xiao Fan Ru

Xiao Fan Ru

(1954, Nanjing, China). Lives and works in Paris.



Born into a literary family, **Xiao Fan Ru** was initiated into calligraphy early on. After studies at the School of Fine Arts of Nanking (1977-1982), he moved to France and studied at the École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris, graduating in 1986.

Xiao Fan Ru was the laureate of the Casa Velazquez in Madrid (1988 and 1990). His works were exhibited in France at the Centre Pompidou (1989), at the MAC in Lyon (2005), at the Cernuschi Museum (Paris, 2011), at the Guimet Museum (Paris, 2020). In China, his works were exhibited at the Beaux-Arts Museum in Shanghai (2005), at the Rong Kun Fine Art Museum in Beijing (2014) and a retrospective of his works was held at the Suzhou Museum in 2017.

La voie d'or (2022)

In China, bamboo has always been the artists, poets and philosophers' favorite subject. In recent years, it has become one of the motifs of Xiao Fan Ru's paintings and sculptures. It shows its simplicity and the elegance of its lines, its resistance, its capacity to bend without breaking, to soar, straight, towards the light, to surround, to protect, by the strength of its eternal return. It also evokes its more hidden, metaphysical, spiritual meaning, according to the Confucian tradition of the search for the middle ground. The idea is to be inspired by the momentum of the bamboo and to progress in an infinite spiral movement, in harmony with nature and the world. According to these principles, the shape of the circle, open, represents a way (the tao) where the emptiness is offered to the inner resonance, to the circulation of the breath. The cicadas, whose moult is another metaphor in ancient Chinese culture, placed on the bamboo trees, symbolizing life, death and rebirth.

This middle ground is golden in our troubled times, and so it is on this philosophical foundation that Xiao Fan Ru has named this series of sculptures, in which our coffee table and our sofa-end are part of: ***La Voie d'or***. In the words of the artist: "***La Voie d'or*** is a bronze table combining the fragile and the resistant, grace and gravity. It is an invitation to shed the weight of the world through the regulation of ordinary use, the rightness.



Installation view, French Design, Paris, France, 2022, © Aurélien Mole

Projects ColAAb

La voie d'or (coffee table), 2022

Stand in bronze, aged gold patina, glass or travertine top.

H 36 x ø 115 cm

H 14.1 x ø 45.2 in (variable dimensions).

Signed, numbered, limited edition: 8 + 4 A.P.

Price upon request.



Installation view, LABÒ, Milano, Italy, 2023, © Lorenzo Palmieri

Projects ColAAb

La voie d'or (coffee table), 2022

Stand in bronze, aged gold patina, glass or travertine top.

H 36 x ø 115 cm

H 14.1 x ø 45.2 in (variable dimensions).

Signed, numbered, limited edition: 8 + 4 A.P.

Price upon request.



Projects ColAAb

La voie d'or (side table), 2022

Stand in bronze, aged gold, red or green patina, glass, travertine, bronze, marble top.

H 55 x ø 40 cm

H 21.6 x ø 15.7 in (variable dimensions).

Signed, numbered, limited edition: 8 + 4 A.P.

Price upon request.



Projects ColAAb

La voie d'or (mirror), 2024

Aged gold patina, mirror.

ø around 55 cm / ø around 115 cm

ø around 21.6 in / ø around 45.2 in

Signed, numbered, limited edition: 8 + 4 A.P.

Price upon request.



Projects ColAAb

La voie d'or (mirror), 2024

Aged gold patina, mirror.

ø around 55 cm / ø around 115 cm

ø around 21.6 in / ø around 45.2 in

Signed, numbered, limited edition: 8 + 4 A.P.

Price upon request.

Selection of **Xiao Fan Ru's** personal artworks



Voie d'or (sculpture), 2022
Golden bronze, 62 x 47,5 cm.
Edited in 8 examples.



Permanent installation view, Haute Borde Castle, Rilly-sur-Loire, France, 2020

Voie d'or (sculpture), 2020
Golden bronze, diameter 150 cm

Introducing ColAAb

ColAAb invites established artists from the contemporary art world to create unique collectible pieces of functional art: seats, shelves, lighting fixtures, mirrors, curtains, tables ...

ColAAb closely collaborates with artists throughout the creation of their functional artworks, producing and distributing them.

Each artwork comes out as a unique piece or limited editions of 8, produced in partnership with the finest craftsmen and artisans, carefully selected for each collaboration.

ColAAb offers contemporary visual artists an opportunity to push their boundaries beyond fine arts (painting, sculpture ...), with a clear focus on sustainability and functionality, and to convey their vision from another angle, using furniture design as a new medium.

Created by the internationally renowned artists, these **ColAAb** pieces will artfully balance any interior design and creatively engage with bespoke projects.

Founded in 2022 and now recognized as part of both the art world and the global design community, **ColAAb** has been invited to present at Unique Design x Paris, French Design, Art Genève, Labo Milano, École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris.

Aurelie Sarallier envisioned and created **ColAAb** based on her background and expertise in both contemporary art and high-end furniture design.

"ColAAb is carried by the work of all those who have undertaken to connect the art and design since the late of 19th century. By those of the Nabis, the Bauhaus, De Stijl and Atelier A by the creation of Dali and Picasso, the new realists, then Rougemont, Rancillac, Franchen or the Lalanne.

Contemporary and embracing all trends, from the most minimal to the most baroque, ColAAb supports today's artists in their deepest desires and perspective."

Pascale Le Thorel, director, Beaux-Arts de Paris publishing



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