



ACHILLE SALVAGNI ATELIER



KYOTO

14th SEPTEMBER 2017 – 12th JANUARY 2018

This autumn Achille Salvagni looks towards East Asia for his latest work on view from 14 September 2017. Marking a departure from his favoured exploration of Roman design, Salvagni turns towards Japan, a country with a long and rich art and design history. Choosing to evoke the atmosphere of a traditional Japanese interior where a more minimal aesthetic is treasured, Salvagni makes reference to the simple beauty of a tatami floor using a soft natural colour for the silk carpet. *Simposio*, a new chandelier in white bronze hangs delicately from the centre of the ceiling, its cascading design emitting a soft glow of light whilst reflecting it back into the room. A pair of playfully large Oyster wall sconces bring warmth to the space with the polished bronze and backlit hand carved onyx gently radiating light.

The *Gae* armchair references the bamboo basket chair by artists Isamu Noguchi and Isamu Kenmochi, utilising an exaggerated tapered leg design that is a contemporary update of a traditional Japanese style. In addition Salvagni reimagines the original shades of the *Lancea* floor and table lamps, using traditional Japanese silk to produce them.

In the dining space, Salvagni has crafted a new, larger version of his iconic *Spider* chandelier in white textured bronze that takes a commanding position above the centrepiece of the exhibition, a reimagined *Fabula* dining table. The table design pays homage to the now extinct Hokkaido wolf, immortalising its characteristics in bronze and paying tribute to the indigenous Ainu people of Japan who revere the wolf as the deity Horkew Kamuy (Howling God). Centred on the back wall is Salvagni's

Oyster Mirror, a stunning piece conceived as an organic hand-carved concave onyx block wall sconce with polished aluminium mirror.

When considered alongside his key signature pieces such as *Spider* and *Pinocchio*, Salvagni reveals how his work has universal qualities that can be shaped according to a particular aesthetic. Aficionados of Salvagni's work will be delighted to see some of his trademark materials such as onyx, bronze, parchment and gold-leaf appearing in these latest designs. Entering this interior visitors will undoubtedly remark the sense of calm and serenity that the ancient Japanese city Kyoto is renowned for.

Salvagni says 'Kyoto was once Japan's imperial capital and the centre of Japanese culture for more than 1,000 years. Today the city retains a very important cultural significance and is synonymous with traditional fine craftsmanship, ancient temples, serene gardens and sophisticated tea ceremonies. For this exhibition I wanted to focus on my own interpretations of this extraordinary city and explore how I could draw inspiration from its rich and fascinating heritage'.

Notes to Editors

Achille Salvagni also presents *Lutèce*, his first collaboration with Limoges based, French porcelain manufacturer, J.L. Coquet. *Lutèce* is inspired by the ancient civilisations of Rome and Lutetia and Salvagni has faithfully drawn on the creative essence of the original design of their Hémisphère collection and reinvented it with his own distinctive signature style.

Achille Salvagni Biography

Achille Salvagni was born in Rome in 1970. In 2002, he established his own architectural and interior design firm; Salvagni Architetti. Achille has received worldwide recognition for his award winning designs for luxury residences and superyachts.

In 2013, he founded Achille Salvagni Atelier, a studio devoted to the production of his limited edition furniture and lighting. In 2015, the London flagship Atelier was opened that showcases these pieces in four yearly shows. Achille is particularly renowned for infusing the decorative grandeur of the Roman Empire into distinctive and innovative contemporary forms.

Salvagni has been listed in the AD Collector 2015 special design issue as one of the 100 best designers of the year and has also been included in the Elle Decor USA A-list for the years 2015 and 2017. Key works by Salvagni have achieved notable results in recent auctions at Sotheby's and Piasa and his prestigious clients include Jeff Koons, Paul Simon and Gisele Bündchen. Achille Salvagni is now represented by Galleria O. in Rome in addition to Maison Gérard in New York.

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