

DECO DUET

A Parisian gallery owner and a designer, both steeped in interwar craftsmanship, have collaborated on a new furniture range

THERE IS A SPECIAL CHARM that only a Parisian art gallery can hold. One such is Galerie Marcilhac – the oldest institution in the capital dedicated to 20th-century decorative arts – located in the sixth arrondissement. Specialising in works from 1920 to 1940, this revered venue of the French art world represents the great names of Art Deco alongside contemporary artists.

In the latest collaboration between gallery owner and namesake Félix Marcilhac and designer Nicolas Aubagnac, the duo's expertise and shared passion for exquisite and high-quality furniture shine through in an elegant contemporary addition to the collections on display. The resulting range, a limited edition of 12 numbered and signed pieces per design, includes two console tables and two smaller pedestal tables, each individually crafted to embody and sustain the legacy of decorative arts.

Refined and contemporary lines are reflected in the diverse geometrical shapes that are a design motif cherished by the pair. In essence, the collection is a homage to Galerie Marcilhac itself and the distinctive works by past masters on display: from Jacques-Emile Ruhlmann to Jean-Michel Frank, from Jules Leleu to Süe & Mare.

The highlight of this joint enterprise revolves around craftsmanship; each table is carefully produced in a combination of bronze patina and stone, which stems from Aubagnac's deep knowledge of interwar design. The architectural structure provided by the 'rough formwork' finish and angular details is offset by a softened travertine top.

Thanks to the duo's meticulous reworking of venerable craft skills, and the ease with which any individual console would sit alongside the gallery's great names, these pieces will emphatically enter the realm of collector's furniture. Indeed, without doubt, they are destined to cross the threshold of many a connoisseur's home ■

For more details, ring 00 33 1 43 26 47 36, or visit marcilhacgalerie.com

Opposite: 'Orion' console, 2020, with bronze patina and softened travertine, a limited edition of 12 numbered and signed pieces. Alongside sits a vase and pin box by Jean Dunand and above it hangs an original lithograph - *Black Panther Standing* - by Paul Jouve. This page, top: Nicolas Aubagnac (left) and Félix Marcilhac pose inside 8 Rue Bonaparte gallery. Right: small 'Orion' pedestal table, 2020, with bronze patina and softened travertine, a limited edition of 12 numbered and signed pieces

PHOTOGRAPHY: OPPOSITE AND THIS PAGE, TOP: PAUL PRESTREAU, BOTTOM: STEPHANE BRIOLANT

