

Juliette Clovis

PORCELAIN CHIMERAS

mp.
maison parisienne



Aankh - 15 years, 15 artists, 15 works, 2023 ©Vincent Leroux

In a resolutely contemporary approach, **Juliette Clovis** combines the skills and expertise of craftsmanship with her artistic aspirations. She expresses herself through porcelain, a noble and delicate medium that she adorns with dreamlike symbols, prophecies, metaphors...

The artist explores the material to create striking biomorphic sculptures. The uniqueness and talent of **Juliette Clovis** captivated **Florence Guillier Bernard**, founder of **maison parisienne**, which has been exhibiting her work since 2020 at events in Paris, London and Brussels.



Black Platinum Blooming, 2021 ©maison parisienne

TRANSFORMATION OF THE MATERIAL

Born in Poitiers in 1978, Juliette Clovis graduated in graphic design from the École des Gobelins in 2005 after studying art history at the École du Louvre. She lives and works near Bordeaux, where her studio, equipped with a stoneware kiln and a kiln for decorations, gives her complete independence in the creation of her porcelain sculptures.

Under her touch, the material undergoes a transformation without losing its nobility and elegance. From the preparation of the slip to the production of the precious porcelain scales that will enable the creation of sculptures, the manufacturing process is sequenced into eleven steps.

The finishes are meticulous; some scales remain in bisque, while others are glazed and partially covered with gold, platinum, or any other metallic oxide depending on the contrasts desired by Juliette Clovis.

Next comes the assembly of the envisioned artwork. Over time, as the shapes have become increasingly complex and the sizes larger, the artist has undertaken a lot of research and experiments on the structure. Thus, hundreds or even thousands of scales are affixed to a dense, sculpted, coated, and painted foam.



Green Ammonite ©maison parisienne

A PROFUSION OF A BAROQUE SPIRIT

Juliette Clovis' astonishing sculptures evoke the animal or vegetal realm, a snake, a butterfly, a pinecone ... Such is the abundant universe populated by hybrid beings, born from her imagination. In 2019, well before the pandemic, the artist became interested in a small, endangered mammal: the pangolin. Shapes emerged, sinuous, tentacular, intertwined; seeming to have neither a beginning nor an end, they gave birth to the series 'Endless'.

Through this aesthetic, the ceramic artist explores the incessant and universal cycle of life and death. The symbolic significance is profound, and it aligns with the great classical themes in the history of art.

Engaging with current affairs, Juliette Clovis also questions the ambivalence of human beings in their relationship with the surrounding nature. As a result of human activity, the environment and its biodiversity are being destroyed on a massive scale, but flora and fauna, in a vital surge, are evading the traps and revealing surprising mutations.



Kilauea, 2023 ©maison parisienne

UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT OF CURRENT EVENTS

Juliette Clovis, a recognised artist in Europe and the United States, collaborated with the prestigious champagne house Dom Pérignon in 2023. She patiently hand-assembled 50 suits of porcelain scales to dress Dom Pérignon Vintage 2008 jéroboams. These adornments, with their metallic reflections from platinum to deep black, are true works of art that beautifully enhance an exceptional champagne.

Another notable event: The piece Obsidian Knot (belonging to the series Endless) is featured in the exhibition by the MAD - Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris, dedicated to the fashion designer Iris Van Herpen until April 28th, before moving to Brisbane, Singapore, and Rotterdam.

Last but not least, Juliette Clovis' freestanding sculptures and wall pieces are brilliantly showcased each year at maison parisienne's events, such as the *Aankh* wall dome, created by the artist for the gallery's anniversary exhibition, "15 years, 15 artists, 15 works."



Obsidian Twist ©maison parisienne