

Hervé Wahlen

BETWEEN GOLDSMITH AND SCULPTOR,
THE MODERN AGE OF COPPERWARE



Hervé Wahlen, Ambiance II, 2022 © Antoine Lippens

PRESS RELEASE



Hervé Wahlen, Grande Torsion, 2022 © Antoine Lippens

Born in 1957, the self-taught artist **Hervé Wahlen** began working with copper in 1981. He would make it his true means of expression a few years later after having practiced sculpture with other materials such as wood, stone and iron.



Hervé Wahlen, portrait © Thibaut Chapotot

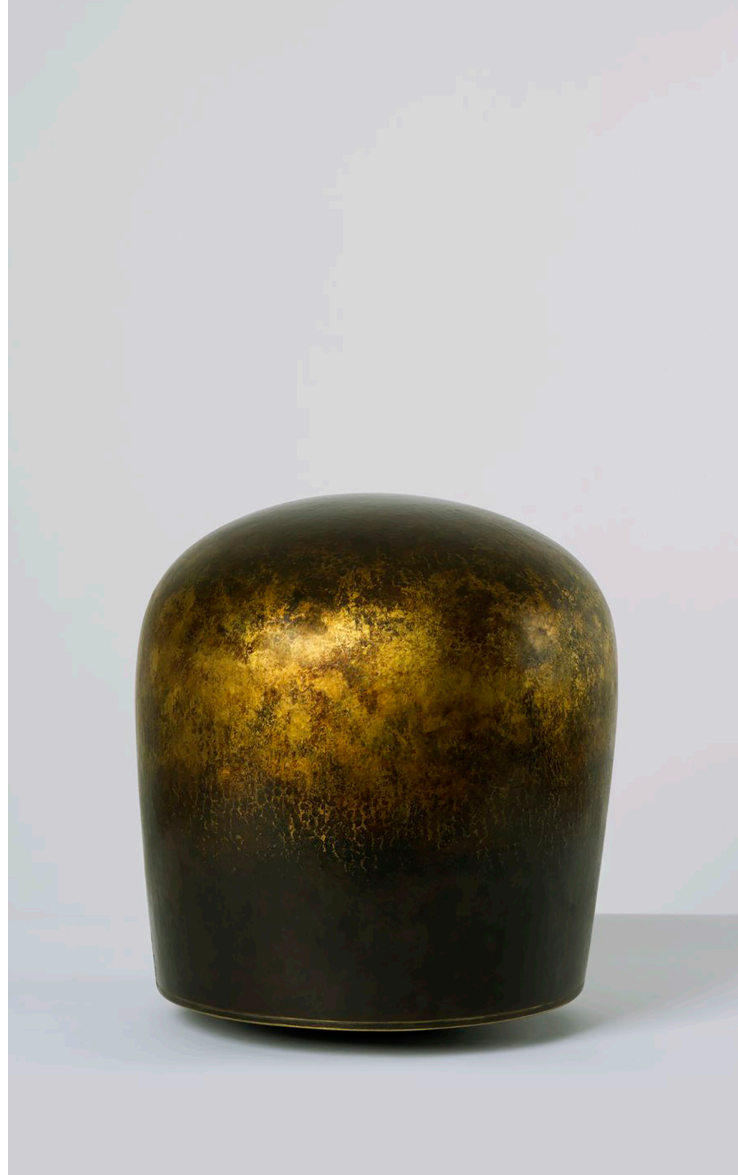
The artist intuitively renews traditional forms and techniques of copperware by using tools of René-Gabriel Lacroix (1894-1963), a sculptor from the Art Deco movement.

Represented by **maison parisienne** since 2012, **Hervé Wahlen's** work is included in several international private and public collections.

A SPACE OF FREEDOM

Every day in his workshop, **Hervé Wahlen** experiments with copper and brass as his primary materials. Hammering, soldering, engraving and patinating, he likes to improvise once the rough form has been sketched out. Surprises and accidents, or “twists of fate” as he describes them, contribute to the individuality of each piece.

Working on multiple pieces simultaneously, **Wahlen's** creations manifest supple, pure, almost organic lines. The addition of gold or palladium leaf and the transformative effects of patina - that of which only **Hervé Wahlen** knows the secret - accentuate the allure of his works. A final wax polishing further enhances the sensuality of the surface.



Hervé Wahlen, Dôme, 2019 © maison parisienne



Hervé Wahlen, Genèse, 2020 © maison parisienne

Endeavouring to experiment beyond the boundaries of art and design, the craftsman has created several lighting collections. Both sculptural and functional, the luminaires are entirely unique, handcrafted pieces.

With its soft, warm tones and ever-changing reflections, copper evokes memories of **Hervé Wahlen's** native Algeria. The luminous metal has inspired coppersmiths for centuries, from the shores of the Mediterranean to northern Europe.

Hervé Wahlen now contributes to this rich legacy, infusing his craft with the heritage of goldsmithing and a resolutely modern decorative repertoire.

AN INTERNATIONAL CAREER

In 1988, **Hervé Wahlen** collaborated with the Peruvian artist Fabian Sanchez to create a monumental work for the Olympic Games in Seoul. Since then, the international acclaim of his work has continued to flourish.

Hervé Wahlen's works grace numerous private collections, including those of Bill Gates, Paloma Picasso and Peter Marino - and esteemed public collections, such as the Fond National d'Art Contemporain de Paris and the DRAC Île-de-France.

In 2021, the Torsion Or lamp joined the prestigious Mobilier National collection. Subsequently, new versions of the Torsion lamp, including Moongold and White Gold, were exhibited at PAD London in 2022 and PAD Paris in 2023.



Hervé Wahlen, Torsion Or, 2021 - Mobilier national © Thibaut Chapotot



Hervé Wahlen, Torsion Or, 2021 - Mobilier national © Thibaut Chapotot

New creations by **Hervé Wahlen** are proudly showcased on **maison parisienne's** stand at PAD Paris and PAD London each year. These internationally renowned design fairs offer a platform to unveil the latest creations by **maison parisienne's** remarkable artists.



ALEXANDRA PUBLIC RELATIONS

Press contact

Phoebe Taschner-Baldwin – phoebe@alexandrapr.com

+33 (0)1 47 58 08 03

www.alexandrapr.com