

Zoé Ouvrier

BEYOND NATURE



maison parisienne



Blue, Zoé Ouvrier ©Bénédicte Drummond

PRESS RELEASE



Zoé Ouvrier ©Kleinferrn

“Wood engraving is an intimate dialogue with the material. Every knife stroke, every incision reveals a story buried beneath the surface. The wood resists, yields, transforms under my hands. It carries within it the memory of forests, the breath of time. It is reborn. In this ancestral gesture, I find balance, resonance. It is a silent language, a mark left between memory and creation.”

Zoé Ouvrier

Born in Montpellier in 1975 and a graduate of the École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris, Zoé Ouvrier has been living and working in Saint-Paul-de-Vence since autumn 2019. A visual artist, she blends two disciplines: wood engraving and painting. Nature is her primary source of inspiration: “The silhouette of a tree opens the doors of my imagination, inviting me to express a message about the living world,” she explains.

Collaborating with the gallery **maison parisienne** since 2010, Zoé Ouvrier has participated in numerous exhibitions both in France and internationally. She recently showcased panels and screens at La Promenade du Collectionneur at the Hôtel Solvay in Brussels and will be featured at the gallery’s booth at PAD Paris in April 2025.

IMPRINTS OF LIFE

For over 20 years, Zoé Ouvrier has explored the theme of trees, uncovering an entire “existential and semantic field,” from the rhizome to the seed, from the nest to the bird.

She begins each piece with delicate drawings using a fine-tipped pen, sketching unique silhouettes. She then transfers these forms as silhouettes onto wood before engraving them onto soft surfaces such as three-ply poplar or linden wood. Using small hand tools—sharp chisels and gouges like razor blades—she carves the material with both strength and precision.



Van screen, Zoé Ouvrier ©Bénédicte Drummond



Eclips mirror, Zoé Ouvrier ©Vadim Konstantinov

Zoé Ouvrier often applies a patina to the wood to reveal the raw color of the material, “as if laying bare the flesh.” This contrast allows her to play with shadows and enhance the three-dimensional effect of her sculptures. The tree comes to life, its branches and leaves appearing to move.

This sensation is further amplified by the application of oil or acrylic paint, as well as other materials such as wax or gold leaf, depending on her inspiration. Dark, mysterious areas emerge alongside charcoal-like tones reminiscent of fire, creating a palette deeply connected to the earth—colors dear to the artist.



Dining room of Maison Courvoisier ©Jerome Galland

A TESTAMENT TO NATURE

At the crossroads of craftsmanship and artistic expression, Zoé Ouvrier has developed a truly unique visual language.

Her work spans various media and objects—wall panels, screens, furniture—each a one-of-a-kind piece inviting viewers to wander through the forest, feel the changing seasons, and listen to the sounds of wind, water, and wildlife.

Zoé Ouvrier passionately expresses her love for nature—our original matrix—while urging us to respect it. Without this awareness, we all risk a form of uprooting, both literal and symbolic.

Thanks to the universal scope of her message, Zoé Ouvrier has participated in numerous museum exhibitions, such as *Pensées invisibles*, organized in 2023 by the Barbier-Mueller Museum in Geneva, where her paintings were displayed alongside first art sculptures.

She has also forged strong connections with the worlds of interior design and architecture. In 2024, at the request of renowned interior design firm Gilles & Boissier, she created several custom panels for Maison Courvoisier, celebrating the heritage and cultural essence of cognac.



PRESS CONTACT

PhoebeTaschner-Baldwin-phoebe@alexandrpr.com

+33 (0) 1 47 58 08 03

www.alexandrpr.com