

Silas Chermant

NEW TERRITORIES FOR SLATE

mp.
maison parisienne



PRESS RELEASE



“I’m exploring new ways of interpreting French slate, seeking out fresh visual and technical plasticities in order to diversify applications of slate and bring it closer to the user”
- Silas Chermant

A designer of material, Silas Chermant is breathing new life into French slate, a material often confined to use as roofing. Guided by intuition and a distinctly hands-on approach, he reveals the raw beauty and natural irregularities of this metamorphic rock — transforming it into sculptural objects and lighting pieces that oscillate between minimalism and elegance.

His creative vision captivated Florence Guiller Bernard, founder of the gallery maison parisienne. Following a first appearance at PAD Paris in April 2025, Silas Chermant is now represented by the gallery. Some of his pieces were also shown at the Révélation Biennial at the Grand Palais in May 2025.

A LABORATORY FOR SLATE

In 2024, Silas Chermant graduated from the École Boulle with a DSAA (Advanced Diploma in Applied Arts) in Object Design – Contemporary Manufacture, earning unanimous praise from the jury. A subsequent internship at the renowned Atelier Luma, a design and research lab based in Arles, confirmed his desire to approach design through the lens of materiality. He made the bold decision to focus on slate from the Pyrenees — his native region — while also engaging with the traditional savoir-faire rooted in its extraction and use.

From quarrying the raw material to prototyping each evolving work, every stage of the creative process takes place within a single, interconnected “ecosystem”. The slate structure is shaped by master craftspeople at the Ardoisière des Pyrénées, while the assembly, finishing, and varnishing stages are carried out by Silas Chermant himself. This collaborative effort — a dialogue of technical and manual gestures — fascinates the designer, as does the intuitive, empirical revalorisation of the raw material, which lies at the heart of his approach.

In November 2024, Silas was awarded the Coup de Cœur Prize by the Matières Libres association at the Mobilier national, for a collection of “experimental objects for contemplative use” made from glass incorporating slate powder. The pieces were developed in partnership with the CNRS in Rennes and Jean-Marie Rimbault, a glassblower from the Pyrenees.



A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH

Driven by the desire to reveal the slate’s original beauty through new aesthetic interactions, Silas Chermant created Labasso, a collection of lighting pieces whose name means “slate stone” in the local Pyrenean dialect. These minimalist designs possess a striking sculptural quality. They highlight the rock’s rectilinear features — its strata, the veining created by the master splitter’s cleaving, the saw-cut and polished surface.

Produced as unique pieces or limited editions, some were unveiled on maison parisienne’s stand at PAD Paris in April, while others were presented at Révélations the following month. Additional creations are expected to be unveiled during the 2025 autumn season.

In parallel, Silas continues to pursue his research into slate and its potential new forms — from the development of a glaze in collaboration with Duncp Ceramics, to the creation of a 3D-printable material free from petrochemical or harmful components. His guiding principle is clear: to respect the environment and minimise carbon footprint without compromising on formal perfection: a symbiosis of beauty and integrity.



maisonparisienne.fr



PRESS CONTACT

Phoebe Taschner-Baldwin
phoebe@alexandrpr.com
www.alexandrpr.com