

PRESS RELEASE  
EXHIBITION  
19 JUNE – 28 SEPTEMBER 2019

## SÈVRES – LES FONTAINES BY ARTHUR HOFFNER

**Arthur Hoffner, awarded the prestigious Prix du Public at the 2017 Design Parade of the Villa Noailles (Hyères), reinterprets the indoor fountain, transforming it at Sèvres into a creation straddling design and art. His residency at the Manufacture in 2018 was made possible thanks to funding by the Île-de-France Region. Arthur Hoffner's fountains are exhibited at the Sèvres Gallery in Paris from 19 June to 28 September 2019.**

This exhibition presents three variations of the fountain imagined by Arthur Hoffner. These unique pieces or limited editions combine Sèvres porcelain with wood and brass, depending on the particular model. Colours, forms and materials associated with the sound of water and the rich symbolism of the fountain delightfully stir the senses, while mischievously deceiving the eye...

*"As a designer, it amounts to playing with this ceremonial device dedicated to contemplation. And envisaging design as a mischievous source of pleasure.*

*"Spaces for negotiation between the solid and the liquid, this project's fountains explore assemblages of utensils, while highlighting the resulting dialogues. This novel approach to the indoor fountain's components and materials constitutes my veritable attempt at its domestication." Arthur Hoffner.*

### Artist residencies at Sèvres

In keeping with its missions, the Manufacture Nationale de Sèvres offers on-site residencies to international artists and designers who explore and experiment with, each in his or her own way, ceramics – particularly porcelain, a material as fascinating as it is complex. Guest artists can draw inspiration from Sèvres' vast repertoire of several hundred forms. They also enjoy access to its exceptional palette of over a thousand colours, which can be further enriched upon their request. The Manufacture's resident artists and its artisans thus benefit from this constant creative dialogue. In this manner, Sèvres' history and heritage are perpetually enriched by new works of art, subsequently acquired by collectors, cultural institutions and the Palaces of the French Republic.

### The artist

After earning his *baccalauréat* in Applied Arts from the École Boulle, Arthur Hoffner (b. 1990) began studying at the École Nationale Supérieure de Création Industrielle in 2008. To further broaden his creative horizons, he attended the Berlin University of the Arts and carried out internships with Jerszy Seymour, Théo Mercier, Gerda and Jörg Lenzlinger, Henriot-Quimper and Unfold Studio. In 2011, his ceramic lamp won first prize at the Cinna design contest. He also designed, alongside Chemsedine Herriche, the permanent furnishings for the video-game space at the Gaîté Lyrique in Paris. Just after earning his Master's (awarded with honours by a committee comprising Alain Lardet, Olivier Sidet and Erwan Bouroullec), he was awarded the Déclics Jeunes grant for emerging talents. Today, Arthur Hoffner independently pursues a variety of projects, notably: stage scenography, interior design, and decorative objects in collaboration with ceramists, glassmakers and marble-workers. In 2017, he was awarded the Prix du Public at the Design Parade of the Villa Noailles.

**In 2018, Arthur Hoffner benefitted from an artist residency at Sèvres, funded by the Île-de-France Region.**

### THE SÈVRES GALLERY IN PARIS

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