




HENGFU ART CENTER
衡复艺术中心

Baccarat

BACCARAT A COLLECTOR'S HOUSE

400 legendary pieces never showed outside of France
exhibited in the Heng Fu Art Center, Shanghai

November 6, 2019 - February 8, 2020



Baccarat
巴卡拉, 收藏者之家
A COLLECTOR'S HOUSE

衡复艺术中心
开幕展
Hengfu Art Center
Opening Exhibition
2019.11.6 -
2020.2.8

2019·衡复艺术季
Art HengFu

HENGFU ART CENTER
衡复艺术中心
上海市乌鲁木齐南路178号, 1号楼
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Wulumuqi Road, Shanghai

SHENG DAO

CHROAIC DEARTS

GUERLAIN

SHANGHAI WUHUO
凹凸库

Baccarat, the legendary French crystal brand with 255 years of heritage and symbol of the most exquisite and refined savoir faire will inaugurate in Shanghai on November 6, the first and greatest exhibition ever outside of France, in collaboration with the Heng Fu Art Center in a beautifully restored mansion dating back to 1928.

For the first time in its history, Baccarat will take 400 pieces of its renowned heritage collection, outside of France. The masterpieces are all original and unique, hand made throughout the centuries by the artisans of the factory located in the village of Baccarat in Lorraine where the brand saw the light in 1764.

The first ever retrospective in Shanghai, the exhibition gives the visitor the opportunity to dive into the history of this amazing brand and see live the creations that have adorned palaces, homes and villas of the most famous people in the world. A once in a lifetime occasion to discover the legend of "the king of crystal and the crystal of kings" and admire the most stunning crystal pieces ever made in history.

In line with the amazing presentation at the Petit Palais to celebrate the 250 years anniversary of Baccarat in 2014, the scenography pays tribute to Baccarat's unparalleled savoir-faire, creativity and glamour. Designed to recreate a collector's home, the stylish staging takes us back to the late 1920's when Shanghai became known as "The Paris of the East", thriving as the hub of new art forms and the center of entertainment in China. In this beautiful house lives a passionate art lover, a devoted collector who has travelled the world to gather a number of truly astonishing and unique pieces.



TSAR CANDELABRUM

The "Candelabrum of the Tsar" was exhibited for the first time on the occasion of the Universal Exhibition of Paris in 1878. In 1896, during a tour of Europe that led Nicolas II and Tsarina Alexandra Fiodorovna to Paris, the Tsar admired the majesty of this candelabrum, 3,85 meters high, composed of 3,320 pieces of crystal and originally presented with 79 candles. Of a modern turn of mind, Nicholas ordered the electric version for his palaces in St Petersburg, thus giving rise to the first electric Baccarat light fixture. Each of these amazing pieces is in the permanent private collection at the Maison Baccarat Museum in Paris.



THE BOAT AND TABLE

The two pieces composing this magnificent ensemble, were created separately: the table was presented at the World's Fair in 1889, the boat – emblem of the City of Paris – at the World Fair of 1900, after a model by sculptor Charles-Vital Cornu. The two together weigh over 750 kg and comprise 101 pieces of crystal. Production called for the skills of 49 expert glassmakers and cutters, including five Meilleurs Ouvriers de France (Best Artisans in France), and a total of 3700 hours of work.

VESSEL OF THE DESERT

This masterpiece, emblematic of the legendary history of Baccarat, is evocative of the Silk Road. At the Universal Exhibition in Paris of 1878, among the exceptional pieces on display, visitors were bewildered by a perfume-burner crafted in the shape of a dromedary of Oriental inspiration. On the back of the animal lies a covered vase, delicately enameled and enhanced with specks of gold, all hand crafted: high-precision artistry giving life to sumptuous decoration. The dromedary's body, adorned with chiseled bronze pieces, stands on a base cut in diamond shapes providing an infinite reflection of light.

The dromedary, the supreme master of all deserts, would transport a precious cargo of myrrh, styrax and sandalwood, together with spices such as cinnamon, pepper and ginger, leaving in its wake the exotic scent of the East.



THE POPPY VASE

The Poppy, created by French Art Deco designer Georges Dunaine for Baccarat, is presented at the International Exhibition of Decorative and Industrial Arts held in Paris in 1925. Dunaine used the theme of the life of a flower metaphorically: the shape symbolizes the bud in all its rounded splendor, while its stylized floral motif, engraved on the bottom of the body, reproduces the flower in full bloom. This emblematic piece of the Art Deco style also pays homage to the colour symbol of the Maison. Red is the defining factor of one of Baccarat's many alchemical secrets. Developed in 1839, this well-guarded secret "recipe" is, to this day, obtained by the gradual fusion of clear crystal and 24-carat gold powder.



JETS D'EAU

At the International Exhibition of Modern Industrial and Decorative Arts in 1925, water was notably the official theme of the exhibition. In order to respect the aquatic theme Baccarat and Chevalier came up with this monumental piece that gives the impression of a series of jets of water spouting up from their circular dishes surrounding a waterfall of cascading crystals. With 6891 cut faceted pearls forming a cascade of crystal and 129 pendants evoking the shape of water drops, this chandelier, with a total of 7020 crystal pieces, perfectly executed the exhibition theme. The original chandelier, the most impressive piece of Baccarat's pavilion, was 2.8 meters high. It is shown here in a scaled-down version of 1.40 meters high.

PARTNERS

This exceptional exhibition was made possible with the valuable support of Baccarat's long-term partners, the American luxury goods company Chrome Hearts, the French Maison Guerlain and the Chinese company Shengdao.

CHROME HEARTS

A dedicated area will leave space for luxury aesthetics with a selection of contemporary pieces designed in collaboration with Chrome Hearts, the sophisticated, life-inspired design company. Vases, decanters, glasses and ashtrays engraved with exquisite patterns embody the Los Angeles-based company's imagery and the eclectic, infinite possibilities of crystal. The Harcourt shape, the perfect expression of Baccarat's craftsmanship, was created in 1841 when King Louis Philippe of France ordered a ceremonial chalice with his monogram. With its six-cut crystal facets capturing the beauty of light and the exceptional weight of each piece, evoking power and majesty, this almost 180 years old collection is transformed into a cool, contemporary piece of art by Chrome Hearts, the company founded in 1988 by Laurie Lynn and Richard Stark that continues to be owned and operated by the Stark family.

GUERLAIN FRAGRANCES

The exhibition also displays a rare collection of outstanding fragrance bottles designed by Baccarat for Maison Guerlain. These true objects of desire, each carrying its own history, like "Shalimar", "Mitsouko", "Liu", "L'Heure Bleue" and "Coque d'or" became fragrances bestseller at the time and remain stunning witnesses of the long-term relationship between the two French Maisons. Founded in 1828, fragrance Maison Guerlain focused as early as 1840 on the production of luxury fragrances. It was in the natural order of things that the perfumer should turn to Baccarat to produce its flacons. The exquisite models here exhibited have since then become icons the world over.

Baccarat wishes to thank Art & Deco and Shanghai JunNan Furniture Co, Ltd for the beautiful furniture to complete the set of Baccarat, a collector's house, their contribution has been critical to the success of the exhibition.

SHENGDAO

Baccarat is grateful to count on the support of Shengdao and its CEO for the organization of this exhibition. Mr. Wang, being a fan of the brand, started to cooperate with Baccarat to provide elegant solutions in interior decoration. His company focuses on municipal engineering, building and decorating materials and light engineering. With its expertise and know-how in engineering and interior decoration, Shengdao offers excellent services to create a luxurious lifestyle.

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ABOUT BACCARAT

Founded in 1764, by permission of King Louis XV, Baccarat, the world's most famous crystal manufacturer has been synonymous of superb craftsmanship and has come to symbolize the inimitable French Art de Vivre, striking the perfect balance between heritage and modernity. Baccarat's prestigious pieces, which met with great acclaim and won a number of prizes at the various Paris Universal Exhibitions since 1867, to this day illuminate the most outstanding locations around the world. Thanks to its unique know-how handed down over the centuries by elite craftsmen, Baccarat blends perfection with creativity and expertise. With its storied heritage and 16 "Meilleurs ouvriers de France" (Best French Craftsmen) to continue its artisanal tradition, Baccarat remains more than ever a symbol of exception.

ABOUT THE HENG FU ART CENTER

In the prestigious setting of a 1928 art deco house fully renovated to its original splendor by the Chinese government, the Heng Fu Art Center, in collaboration with Baccarat, will be a prestigious art institution at the heart of the city cultural landscape. Through this exclusive cultural collaboration, Baccarat and the Heng Fu Art Center, launch a totally original experiential concept involving culture, lifestyle and luxury shopping. The restyled complex with its exhibition space, Bbar and lounge, located in a refined environment including a garden and a roof terrace, will be the destination for all lovers of art.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Period: 2019.11.6 - 2020.2.8

Opening hours: 10am - 6pm, from Tuesday to Sunday (last entry at 5pm), closed on Monday

Ticket price 108 RMB



Scan the QR code to purchase tickets on Maoyan

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