

Rose Morant

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Following her studies in sociology and social anthropology, Rose Morant travelled extensively throughout Asia. Her particular interest in traditional techniques spurred her to set up her own lacquer workshop, where she toiled for many years to revitalise ancestral crafts, such as Vietnamese lacquer silk, that were in danger of disappearing

In 2012, she advocated a new approach to age-old materials in her sculptures and installations. Natural materials make up the heart of her work: lacquer, gold leaf, metal, wood, precious stones and flower powder, which are redefined to express the very essence of these elements connecting shape to space and time to dimension.

Artistic approach

Rose Morant's work is the movement of a passage, a crossing. Her work emerges from that closeness to nature achieved by those who spend many years walking long distances in the forest, who learn to breathe in harmony with mountains and lakes as they travel through the natural world and dissolve their being in something larger; to perceive and to connect: perceive and connect the landscape to the inscape that the artist simultaneously explores and hides from our gaze.

It is a journey into the invisible.

Rose Morant plays with materials and dualities between what is visible and hidden, solid and void, masculine and feminine, in subtle shifts that help to balance forces by exploring interstices and empty spaces. In her confrontation with elements and shapes, the artist overturns concepts of our presence in the world, imposing, with the power of a demiurge, an intense movement of light.

Beam 1

Suspended sculpture - 2014

Acquisition in 2014 by The Temple / Beijing

Ancient Temple beam, monumental chains and settings -
Wood, brass & copper.

Chains height : 280 cm / Beam = L : 350 cm / l : 43 cm

The Temple is one of the rare vestiges of the Ming Dynasty. Transformed by the Communist Party into a factory producing television sets, it later became derelict. In 2011, the art collector Juan van Wassenhove turned it into the Temple, which was renovated using raw materials found on the site and most notably hosted James Turrell's "Open Sky" installation.

Beam 1, created from a burnt beam of the Temple, reveals the cycle of the material. A monumental sculpture created from a beam of the Temple, where ancient original material is brought back to life.



Golden Trees

Sound sculpture - 2014

Acquisition in 2015 by the Chairman's Club / Kuwait

Two tree sculptures stood in an ancient Temple beam -
metal leaves move and rustle with wind and movement
- Wood, brass & copper.

H : 240 cm / L : 350 cm / I : 110 cm the largest

*Movement is suspended as we wait.
Everything is ready to greet the breath of the gods.
The air moves unseen between a myriad of gold
leaves - Tree of life.*

Commentary by Constance de Monbrison - Curator, Musée du Quai Branly



Golden Tree

Sound sculpture - 2013

Acquisition in 2015 by the Elgiz Museum / Turkey
Contemporary Art Fund

Tree sculpture with metal leaves that move and rustle
with wind and movement - Wood, brass & copper.
H : 230 cm / L : 110 cm / I : 110 cm the largest



Spheres

Installation - 2013

Acquisition in 2015 - Private Collection / Hong Kong

Gold Sphere : Sculpture made from compressed flower powder and lacquer enclosing semi-precious stones. Covered with gold leaf.

Diamètre : 9 cm

Rough black sphere : Sculpture made from compressed flower powder and raw lacquer enclosing semi-precious stones.

Diameter : 22 cm



Secret

Installation - A broken sculpture - 2015

Compressed flower powder and lacquer revealing six jade stones and one amber stone.

Gold leaf finishing - A broken sphere.

Original diameter Sphere : 9 cm

Installation dimensions : L : 20 cm / l : 15 cm

The eye moves between the spheres, ricocheting from one to the other. It conjures thoughts of stars and globes. The curved surface of the eye struggles with the density of the matter./

The artist creates a rare alchemy by placing in the heart of the Sphere a few precious stones covered with powdered flower petals mixed with lacquer, forming a secret magma. Covered with gold leaf or left bare, smooth or porous, the surface attracts the eye towards the centre or repels it towards the outside the Sphere.

Commentary by Constance de Monbrison - Curator, Musée du Quai Branly



Apple Sphere

Suspended sculpture - 2016

Acquisition in 2016 - Private collection / Switzerland

A sphere made from compressed flower powder and lacquer enclosing semi-precious stones - Covered with gold leaf and set with a sapphire.

Chain, leaf and gem setting in copper and brass.

Diameter : 18 cm



Gold Magma

Sculpture - 2016

Acquisition in 2016 - Château des Alpilles / France

Compressed flower powder and lacquer enclosing semi-precious stones - Matt finishing revealing an unfinished centre covered with gold powder:

Diameter: 40 cm



Gold Panels

Sculpture - 2016

Acquisition in 2016 - The Chairman's Club / Kuweït

Lacquered bamboo, covered with gold leaf.

H : 170 cm / L : 43 cm / Thickness : 0,3 cm

Firelight on a rectangle. Variable incandescence, reflection. The planeness of the Italian Primitives, the golden cupola of Early Christian churches. The straight lines of the rectangle, the curve of spheres and the displacement of our bodies to within these revisited architectures that call for silence.

Commentary by Constance de Monbrison - Curator, Musée du Quai Branly

