EXHIBITIONS

BAD+

Bordeaux launches a new art and design fair.

Hangar 14, 115 Quai des Chartrons, 33000 Bordeaux
7th-10th Sep 2022

By Nina Bednarz - 7th sep 2022

Exterior view, courtesy BAD+

BEST KNOWN FOR pan-eminent wines and elegant, eighteenth-century architecture, the city of Bordeaux has been forging a reputation for a thriving arts scene in the last few years. In 2016, the MECA, a multidisciplinary cultural centre designed by Dermach/Barre Vignin Group and Fresks Architecture from Paris, was inaugurated, adding to existing attractions such as contemporary art museum CAPC and the Cité du Vin, which opened its doors in June 2021. Meanwhile, the growing numbers of Parisians quit the French capital and relocate to Bordeaux for a higher quality of life, the collector base of the city on the Garonne is expanding too. Against this backdrop, a new art and design fair, BAD+, is launching its first edition this month.

Jorge Glasinski, Lounge chair commissioned by Pierre S.A. 1970, Sao Paulo
COURTESY Jorge Glasinski

BAD+ is the brainchild of Jean-Daniel Compain, a former managing director of the Reed fair group who oversaw FIAC and Paris Photo. Hailing from Bordeaux, Compain wished to bring a cultural event to his home city in the wake of the Covid-19 health crisis. After teaming up with Bordeaux-based Sylvie Ramond, who has been working in the cultural sector for Commerce Cosmopolitaine, a former partner at Thaddaeus Ropac, an artistic director was formed. The inaugural edition assembles 42 art and design galleries – many from Paris, but also from Bordeaux and abroad – at Hangar 14, an industrial site overlooking the river.

Exterior view, Galerie Eléonore
COURTESY Galerie Eléonore

Inevitably, commuting galleries to participate in a new summer salon one month after Art Basel and its satellite fairs was not straightforward. "Several galleries that exhibit at FIAC in Paris didn't consider it necessary to come to Bordeaux, whereas others that exhibit at events like Collectible in Brussels didn't have any budget left," Adrien de Rochebouet, BAD+'s art advisor, says.

Nonetheless, enthusiasm about Bordeaux – renowned for its chateaux with extensive vineyards, several of which boast esteemed art collections – was enough to attract a significant number of exhibitors, among them contemporary art galleries such as Anne-Sarah Bénichou and Alberta Pane from Paris, Sazenan from Boulazac/Andalo, and MAGNINI-A and Carole Kraemer, also from Paris, both showing African contemporary art, as well as several design galleries.

Ala Karlova, Jan Kaiser, 2019
COURTESY Galerie Eléonore, photo by Jan Kaiserpalace

Ala Karlova from Amsterdam is unveiling Russian designer Vadim Kibardin's 'Dolly' sofa (2022), ingeniously made from cardboard and hundreds of layers of black paper, elevated on a brass-plated powder-coated feet. Also on show are Jaime Hayon's 'Rosario of Light', a geode alone form which a spherical light is hidden – and Olga Engel's furniture.

Galerie Kraemer, Vadim Kibardin, circa 1980
COURTESY Galerie Kraemer

At Galerie 308 is an artistic mix of modern and contemporary European design, including Jean Prouvé's 'Kangourou' or 'Chaise P352' armchair (1949-in sale), steel and plywood, which seemingly glides into the floor, Martin Muscat's cuirrinose stools in sandcast wood and pulverised marble-coated concrete, and Gerard Rudgers' 'Coffee Table 835,' made from a monolithic, jagged slab of marble.

Gerard Rudgers, Coffee Table 835, 2021
COURTESY Galerie 308, photo by Gerard Rudgers

Meanwhile, Modernista from La Bouscat, southwest France, is showing a range of Brazilian furniture including a sideboard by Sergi Rodrigues, leather armchairs by Jorge Zalszupin, and stools and a console by José Zanine Caldas.

Anatole Ibrahim, circa 1980
COURTESY Galerie Kraemer

Elsewhere, Dumontet from Paris is presenting artworks such as Wang Kaping's bronze 'Bird' sculpture (1982) with furniture such as Jean-Marie Fon's 'Grand Cabinet Suave' (2019) in tinted ash adorned with nine bronze animals including an elephant and an ox.

Jean-Marie Fon, Grand gravanoire, 2019
COURTESY Jean-Marie Fon and Galerie Dumontet, photo by PHOTOGRAPHIE Company, Gustavia

Brightly coloured ceramics can be found at Lefebvre et Fils from Paris, while Emeric Chesnais's ceramic vases teeming with flora are on display at fellow Parisian exhibitor AZZ Gallery.

Emeric Chesnais, Vase n°1, 2017
COURTESY Emeric Chesnais & AZZ Gallery

Textile works are also among the highlights. Kasseli artist Dahrur Mukashanova's multi-media work 'Moment of the Present #14/02' (2020) – in deep blue velvet bordered with collaged floral brocade – mesmerises at Michael Janssen from Berlin, while Angolan artist Ana Pimenta's mixed-media textile series on coffee bags depicting African women and children steal the show at MAGNINI-A.

Ana Pimenta, Nagô-Bedi, 2021
COURTESY Galerie Kraemer, photo by PHOTOGRAPHIE Claudio Cunha Gallieano

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Article by Anna Sansom
Anna Sansom is a freelance journalist, based in Paris, who writes about contemporary art, design and architecture.
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