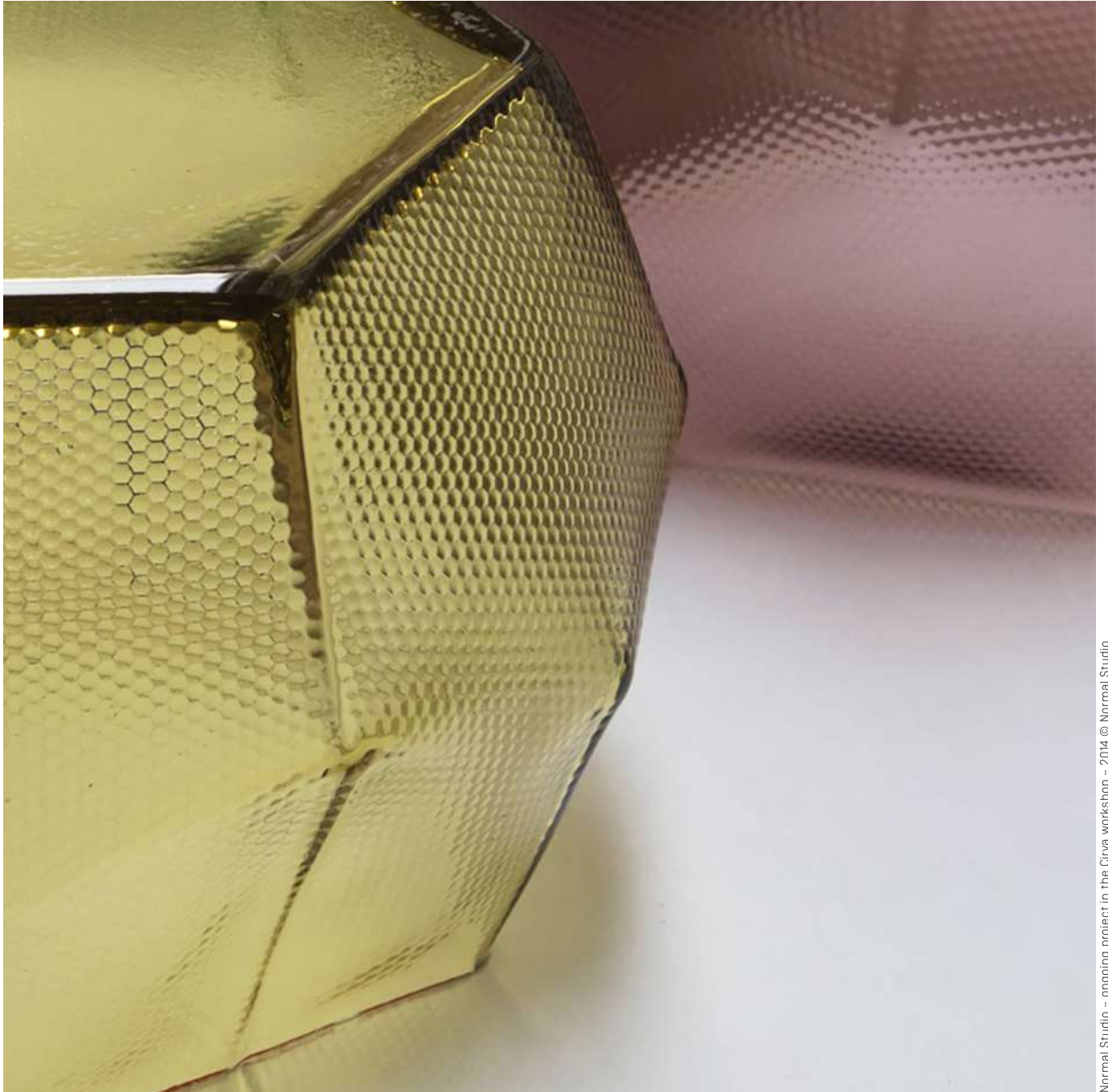




centre d'innovation
et de design
au Grand-Hornu



Normal Studio - ongoing project in the Cirva workshop - 2014 © Normal Studio

Press release

Glass-oriented design

Scenography: Normal Studio

17.02.19 → 26.05.19

“Glass is, in general, the enemy of secrets.” *

This was how Walter Benjamin identified the ambivalent transparency of a material with which it seems very difficult to hide one’s intentions. The dialectics between apparent banality and potential for transgression inhabit the process that has governed Cirva’s mission since its creation over thirty years ago in Marseille. Indeed, the laboratory’s vocation is to explore the relationships between art, design and glass through a wide range of theoretical and practical procedures, combined with the personal approaches of the artists and designers who are invited there for research and creation residencies.

* Benjamin, W., “Experience and Poverty”,
in Jennings, M.J., Eiland, H. and Smith, G.
eds., Selected Writings: Vol. 2 (1927-1934),
Cambridge, University Press, 1999, pp. 731-736

The *Glass-Oriented Design* exhibition presents an eloquent series of experiments with glass conducted at Cirva by designers from very different horizons, but who are united by the opportunity to work and take part in an ongoing dialogue with the glassmaker.

The first part of the show focuses on the object-constructions invented by Andrea Branzi at Cirva between 2001 and 2008, which question the relationships between domestic objects, nature and architecture.

A more formal, technical approach to the material is highlighted through the research of Sylvain Willenz [*Shift*, *Spot lights* and *Block* containers collections, 2011/2012] and the lighting project developed by the French duo Normal Studio [2013/2016], which explore the imprint left by the mould. The emphasis here is placed on the stages of work which make it possible to understand the experimental process.

Through the poetic, narrative universe of David Dubois, the exhibition also considers questions of randomness and movement. Like a central theme, a series of unique works including suspension and wall lights [*Globes*, 2014] form a lighting landscape which in spatial terms is both graphic and diaphanous.

Since 2011, Cirva and the Design Parade festival at the Villa Noailles in Hyères have chosen to work together through a one-year research residency grant for the winner of a competition. The young designer is given the brief to create one or a series of original vases. These creations are now being used to decorate the Villa Noailles with flowers, as during the time of the villa's commissioners, Charles and Marie-Laure de Noailles, who were aesthetes and loved flowers. This precious testimony to modernist architecture, designed by the architect Robert Mallet-Stevens between 1923 and 1933, still remains contemporary and full of life.

The exhibition scenography has been entrusted to Normal Studio. Drawing on their research experience at Cirva, they have designed a framework that enables the various worlds and functions to interconnect, thereby codifying Cirva's language of commitment to design and creation.

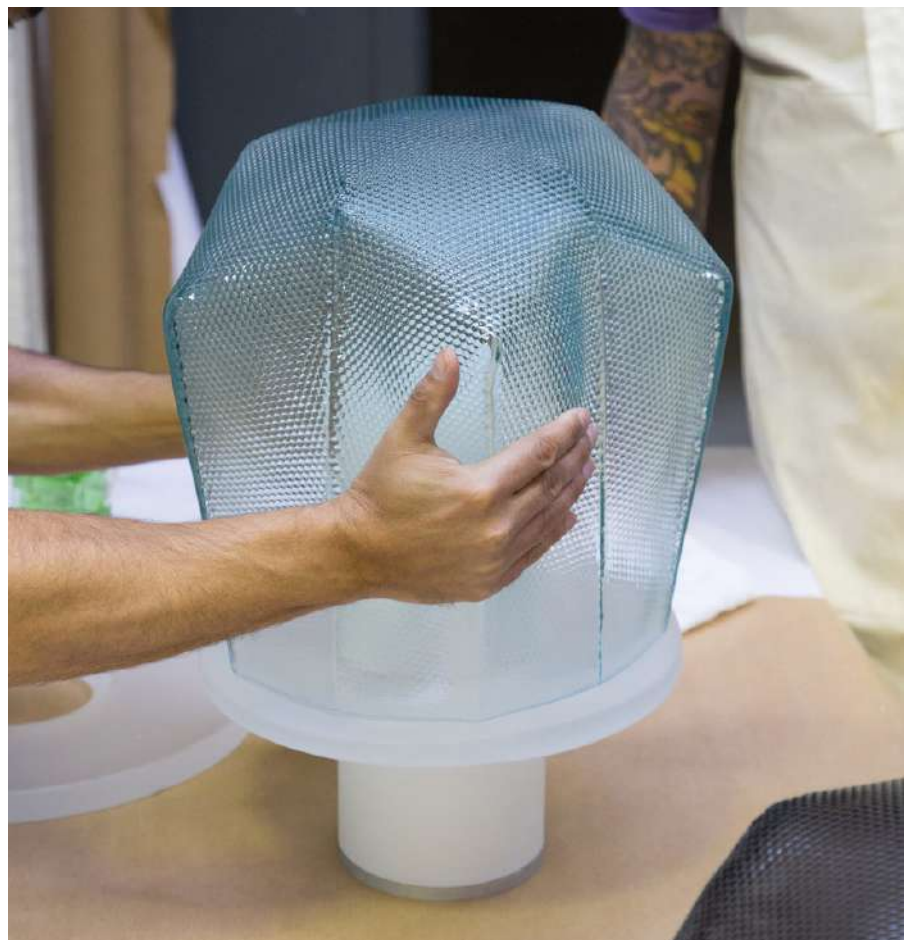
PRESS CONTACT

Hélène van den Wildenberg
Caracas Public Relations
+32 (0) 2 560 21 22
+32 (0) 495 22 07 92
info@caracascom.com

Press visuals can be downloaded without access
code on WWW.CARACASCOM.COM

Normal Studio, ongoing project in the
Cirva workshop, 2014

© Photo: Normal Studio



Andrea Branzi
Simbiosi n°2
2004-2005

© Photo : galerie Clio Calvi, Milan



Julie Richoz
Vase Coques et Vases Orelles
2012-2013
Exhibition « Arrêt sur objet /
Julie Richoz », Cologne (Germany), 2014

© Photo : Julie Richoz



Sylvain Willenz, *Shift*, 2010-2012

© Photo: Sylvain Willenz



Workshop, 2012

© Photo: Sylvain Willenz



Carolien Niebling
Vase Fleurs sous-marines
2017-2018
Exhibition « Carolien Niebling -
La beauté des plantes aquatiques »,
villa Noailles, Hyères, 2018

© Photo : Lothaire Hucki /
villa Noailles



PARTNERS



cirva

An exhibition of the international Glass and Visual Arts Research Centre / Cirva, Marseille

- . The npo CID - centre for innovation and design at Grand-Hornu is subsidised by the Province of Hainaut.
- . With the support of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation – Visual Arts Sector.
- . As part of the 100th anniversary of cultural policy in Hainaut

**CID - centre for innovation and design
at Grand-Hornu**

Site du Grand-Hornu
Rue Sainte-Louise 82
B-7301 Hornu

T: +32 (0) 65 65 21 21
F: +32 (0) 65 61 38 97
info.cid@grand-hornu.be

www.cid-grand-hornu.be
www.grand-hornu.eu
www.facebook.com/cidgrandhornu

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Massimo Di Emidio
+32 (0) 65 61 39 11
massimo.di_emidio@hainaut.be

PRESS CONTACT

Hélène van den Wildenberg
Caracas Public Relations
+32 (0) 2 560 21 22
+32 (0) 495 22 07 92
info@caracascom.com

PRESIDENT

Fabienne Capot

DIRECTOR

Marie Pok

OPENING TIMES

Every day from 10 AM until 6 PM, except
Mondays.

The Grand-Hornu is closed on 24, 25, 31st
December and 1st January.

The office can be reached during
weekdays from 8 AM to 4.30 PM.

ADMISSION FEE

- Combined ticket for the Grand-Hornu site / CID / MAC's: €8
- Discount: €2 or €5
- Group rates (minimum 15 ppl.): €5
- School groups: €2
- Free for children under 6
- Free entry on the first sunday of the month
- Free guided tour from Tuesday to Friday at 15.30, Saturday at 11.00 and 15.30, Sunday at 15.00 and 16.30
- Audio-guides for the historic site: €2 (FR / DUTCH / GERMAN / ENGL / IT / SP)

BOOKING NUMBER

Advance reservation required for guided tours (by appointment) of exhibitions and/or historic site (FR / DUTCH / GERMAN / ENGL).
+32 (0) 65 61 39 02
reservations@grand-hornu.be

THE BRASSERIE OF THE GRAND-HORNU

+32 (0) 65 61 38 76
brasserie@grand-hornu.be

