

ARTÉL LAUNCHES NEW CABINET OF CURIOSITIES GILDED SET

PRAGUE, **CZECH REPUBLIC** – While all that glitters may not be gold, when it comes to evoking a heightened sense of elegance, there is simply no substitute for the luminous luster of the real thing... except, of course, platinum.

This winter, ARTĚL – the globally renowned producer of luxury crystal couture – is setting a new 'gold standard' of luxury with the release of an updated version of its immensely popular **CABINET OF CURIOSITIES** motif collection that features a generous helping of either 24-carat gold or genuine, glittering platinum.

First released in 2016, the **CABINET OF CURIOSITIES** collection was inspired by a popular pastime for aristocrats and scholars throughout Europe from the Renaissance through the Victorian era – creating and displaying collections of rare, valuable, or unusual objects in elaborate "cabinets of curiosities." Also called *Wunderkammer* ("wonder-rooms"), these precursors to the modern museum featured taxidermy, skeletons, and other exotic natural artifacts, and were designed to enthrall and inform viewers by exposing them to the wonders and oddities of the natural world.

The original **CABINET OF CURIOSITIES** collection is comprised of six different natural history-themed motifs that are meticulously hand engraved by master Czech artisans – **BAT, BEETLE, BUTTERFLY, SKULL, SNAKE AND SPIDER** – and are available either individually or as a set of six glasses (sets include one glass with each design).

CABINET OF CURIOSITIES GILDED adds another layer of refinement: once engraved, each design is then delicately hand-gilded for a stunning effect that combines the tactile sensation of engraving with the understated luxuriousness of real 24-carat gold or platinum. The resulting glassware has a classic, vintage feel that is unlike anything currently on the market and sure to complement a wide range of décors.

"We've released gilded editions of only a few other motifs over the past few years," says company founder / director Karen Feldman, "and our fans have loved each of them. Given the instant and ongoing popularity of the **CABINET OF CURIOSITIES** set, it just seemed like a natural choice to give this set of motifs the Midas touch – and by adding the option of platinum, we've created a totally new level of opulence that truly makes each glass in the collection a unique conversation piece."

Established in 1998 by American designer and entrepreneur Karen Feldman, ARTĚL specializes in handcrafted, functional crystal glassware of high design. The company takes its name from an early-20th-century collective of Czech artisans whose dedication to preserving the traditional methods of handcraftsmanship led them to reject industrial production techniques. ARTĚL carries on the spirit of these artisans and their commitment to producing – entirely by hand – lasting objects of impeccable quality, design, and functionality. Artěl's innovative product line can be found on the shelves of Asprey, Christian Dior and Neiman Marcus, among other exclusive retailers.

CONTACT