Květná 1794: The Sound of Tradition and the Haoto Collection

Květná 1794 Glassworks, one of the oldest and longest-running glass factories in the Czech Republic, returns to Paris this autumn with a showcase of its latest signature projects and product series. Visitors can look forward to the comeback of the poetic installation *The Sound of Tradition*, which blends a visual and acoustic glass experience, as well as the presentation of several collections from the brand's portfolio.

The highlight of this year's exhibition will be the presentation of *Haoto*, a latest collection created in collaboration between Květná 1794 and Japanese architect Kengo Kuma.

The Sound of Tradition – when glass begins to sing

The installation *The Sound of Tradition* creates the impression of a glass garden. Dozens of hand-blown, thin-walled glasses from the glassworks' portfolio are mounted on slender metal rods, gently moving and producing a melodic tone whenever they touch. The project, conceived by art directors Klára Janypková and Tomáš Kučera, celebrates glass as a material while reflecting the glassworks' more than 230-year heritage.

The installation also features popular wine glasses from the *Auriga* and *Telesto* product lines, widely appreciated by sommeliers.

The Haoto Collection – inspired by the harmony of nature

The centrepiece of the presentation is the new Haoto collection, created in collaboration with Kengo Kuma & Associates. The seven-piece set of minimalist glass objects combines cylindrical forms with a unique detail: the imprint of a leaf's venation on the bottom of each piece. The name *Haoto* can be translated as "the sound of leaves," referencing the gentle natural motif permeating the entire collection.

The set includes a universal red and white wine glass, a water glass, a sake glass, a carafe, and two vases. The leaf imprint reveals itself under direct light or when viewed from below, underscoring the ethereal and contemplative character of the collection.

„I wanted this collection to evoke a sense of calm, intimacy, and quiet reflection. When we hold a glass, it becomes an extension of a personal moment—sharing a drink, arranging flowers, or simply pausing to appreciate something beautiful," says Kengo Kuma.

The cylindrical shape was chosen for its timelessness, simplicity, and neutrality—ensuring it never overwhelms its surroundings and allowing the delicate leaf imprint to remain the central feature. Developing the collection required creating a new production technique previously unseen at the glassworks. The set was shaped not only by Květná's experienced glassmakers, but also by art directors Klára Janypková and Tomáš Kučera.

"Our aim is to build a strong brand that honors its long history while speaking a contemporary design language. The collaboration with Kengo Kuma is the embodiment of this vision—an extraordinary experience and, at the same time, a natural step forward," says Klára Janypková.

Additional new collections from Květná 1794

Alongside *Haoto*, Květná 1794 will also present several other new products: the *Master Craft* beer glass collection created with glass designer Lukáš Jabůrek; the *Desidére* vase collection; the *Drop* set of glass coffee cups; the *Vial* drinkware series; and the *Yra* product line designed for gastronomy operations.

The showcase also includes the *Alchymist* drinkware collection, created in collaboration with the Olgoj Chorchoj studio for the Prague tasting restaurant Štangl.

About Květná 1794 Glassworks

Květná 1794 is one of the longest-operating glassworks in the Czech Republic. Founded by Prince Alois I of Liechtenstein on the very border with Slovakia, it originally focused on sheet glass production. In the mid-19th century, new owner Emanuel Zahn transformed it into a manufactory specializing in fine crystal adorned with engraving, cutting, and later etching.
Today, Květná is synonymous with quality, elegance, and master craftsmanship. It stands out for its thin-walled glasswork, the widest range of 16 color shades in Europe, and exceptional durability thanks to titanium enrichment. Each piece is handmade and carries the experience and personal imprint of the glassmakers.

Drinkware from Květná 1794 is increasingly favored by chefs and sommeliers. It is used in numerous prestigious venues, including the Michelin-starred restaurants Odette and Nae:um in Singapore.
The glassworks regularly collaborates with Czech and international artists and designers to create original objects and collections. Beyond Maison & Objet, Květná 1794 products were also featured this year in the Czech national pavilion at the World Expo in Osaka, Japan.

Tomáš Kučera a Klára Janypková

Today, they are responsible for the creative direction of the Květná 1794 brand. Klára Janypková is a product and interior designer and a graduate of the Faculty of Architecture at CTU. Tomáš Kučera is a designer, sculptor, and graduate of Rony Plesl's studio at UMPRUM. They are united by a love of applied arts and glass, which they translate into their own collections and glass objects.

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