

SLOW | STONE

STORIES OF CREATION



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COMPANY PROFILE

Slow Stone is an art/furniture start-up born in London and made in Italy, revolving around the complexities of stone.

In 2018, the scientist Roman Gonitel proposed an idea to the artist and designer Samantha Oriegien Swaby. He was curious as to how the design process could be flipped, instead of just designing a piece to incorporate a particular marble or stone, one could take time to see what the natural patterns occurring in the stone could dictate and evoke from the artist/designer.

Samantha was intrigued by Roman's proposal and so the journey began and as a result Slow Stone was born.

Tables, lamps and furniture arise from the interpretation of a methodically chosen slab of marble where the design is dictated from the reading of its veins and inclusions.

THE SLOW STONE PROCESS

Stone, marble, granite, onyx, precious ...

Infinite years in the making, the Earth tells its stories through its natural wonder.

Water, fire, earth and air, ether culminating in an intoxication mix ripe for creation, only the Earth knows its true story; men can ponder their philosophy, create their myths, abate their fears and find solace and faith in their imaginings, but this Earth knows the truth.

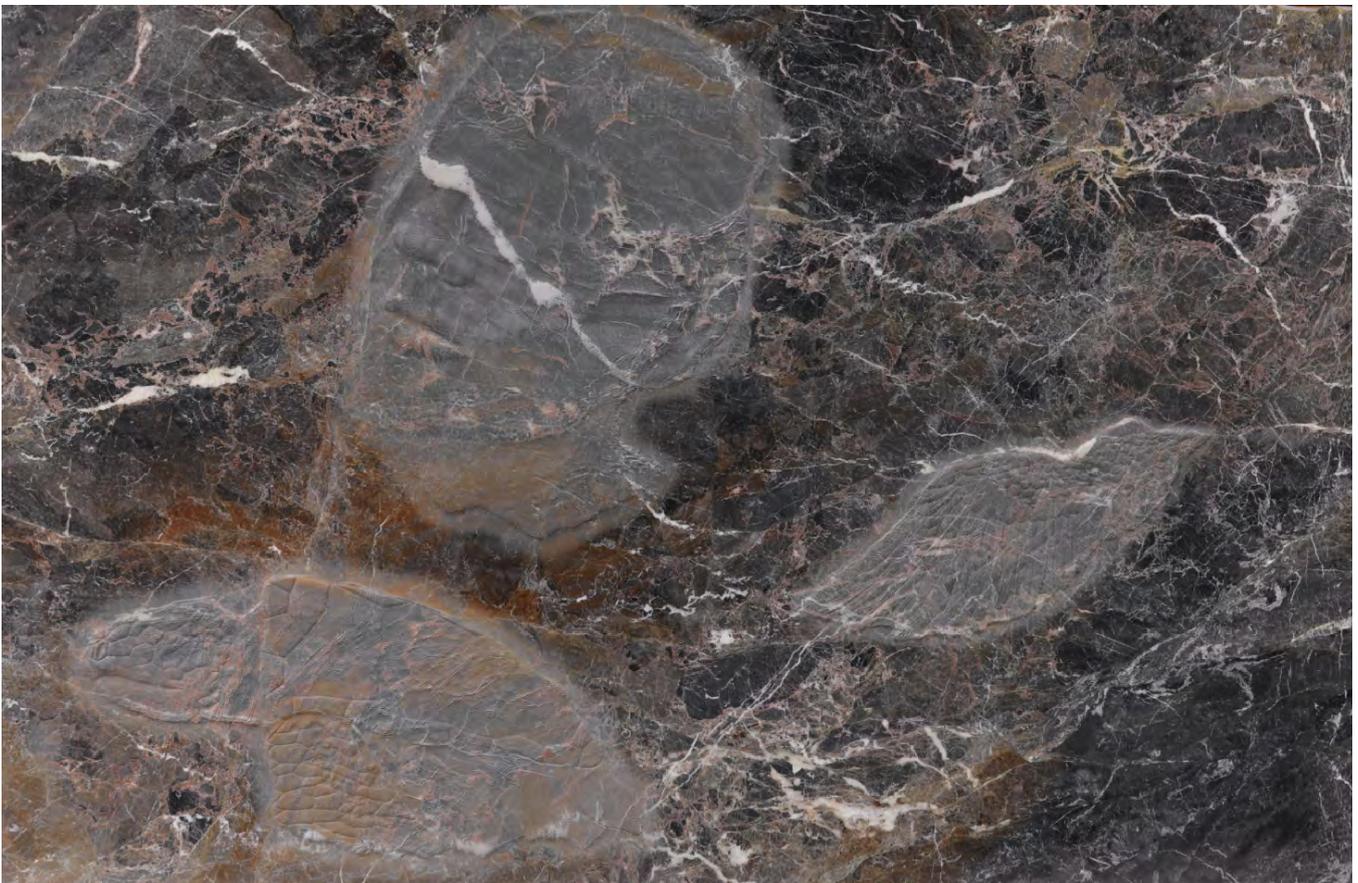
As clouds create an image for the onlooker to make real, so does each piece of stone tell a story. One must have the patience to look, meditate on each vein, each inclusion that has been buried for years just waiting to be discovered.

Walking through the wide corridors of stones, colour, texture, such intensity, the earth makes its art in every piece. As each block is cut they change and mutate, revealing yet another hidden image buried in its stone bones.

Slow Stone, slowly looks at each piece of stone, allowing it to speak and it will dictate the creation, it will dictate the design. It takes patience to contemplate each slab, waiting for one to reveal its story and reveal its hidden meaning.

The debut collection "Stories of Creation" by Samantha Oriegen Swaby is made from Grey Saint Laurent Marble and is inspired by mythology and esoteric meaning.

Slow Stone' creations are unique: never to be repeated and have been infinite years in the making.



Chosen Grey Saint Laurent marble slab with naturally images defined

PROMETHEUS

Designed by Samantha Oriegen Swaby



Materials used:
Grey Saint Laurent Marble and
Shou sugi ban burnt wood, inlaid
with 24 carat gold leaf
Burnished bronze covered base
Cradled on clear Lucite legs

Table size:
200cm x 125cm (approx)

PROMETHEUS TABLE

The Prometheus table can be defined as the main protagonist of the Stories of Creation collection.

The image of a blindfolded man's face, created by the intertwining of the veins and nuances of the stone, brings to mind the face of Prometheus, a mythological figure who challenged the gods to restore fire to humanity, and it is precisely the imposing silhouette of this face set in the marble of Saint Laurent, which represents the starting point of the Prometheus table.

It is the marble slab itself that contains the face of Prometheus, which remained hidden for centuries before being discovered and transformed into a unique piece capable of combining the characteristics of a decorative piece of furniture with the elegance and creativity of art.

The head has been cut out of the Grey Saint Laurent Marble and the facial details have been emphasized using a CNC machine to etch out the details. 24 carat Gold leaf has then been inlaid to represent a blindfold over Prometheus's eyes, becoming a metaphor for being blinded by his desire as well as an expression of the fire itself.

During the working phase and to give more intensity to the gold, it is rubbed back to highlight the white veins of the marble. The table top is made of burned wood to symbolize once again the fire power needed in ancient times to burn the wood used to heat and cook.

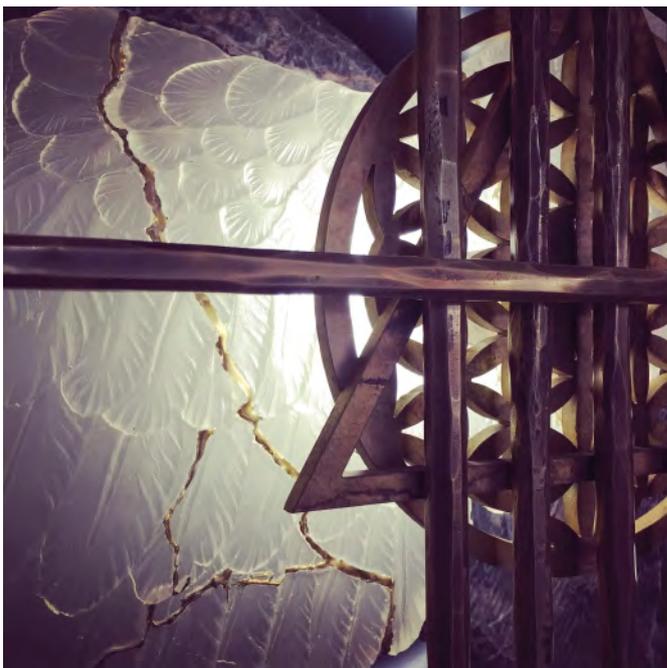
The use of polished bronze to create the base of the table is not a coincidence, but is an additional reminder of the importance of the fire used since ancient times to forge and shape all types of metal.

The entire structure rests on transparent Lucite legs that give the whole an impression of lightness and evanescence expressing the ethereal character of the myths and legends.

PRICE: €95,000

WINGS OF CHERUBIM

Designed by Samantha Oriegen Swaby



Materials used:
Grey Saint Laurent Marble with cast
resin sculpted wing, cracks inlaid
with gold.

Brass ring and central detail
held on customisable reinforced
mount.

Light size: 160cm x 115cm
(approx.)

Weight: 80kg (approx)

WINGS OF CHERUBIM

The Wings of Cherubim light installation is a tribute to the magical figure of the cherubim.

The many esoteric and mythological meanings of cherubs are all related exclusively to light. "Brilliant" is the meaning that Jewish etymology gives to the name Kerubim. In mythology, cherubs were the first to be created with the aim of protecting the Garden of Eden and to be guardians of the truth. The cherubs shine with divine intelligence and enlightening is their happiness. Thus the Wings of Cherubim light installation also radiates the space with light and warmth.

Starting from the natural shape of the wing glimpsed within the marble, Samantha recreated a reflection of it sculpted in clay. As the sculpture dried it began to crack dramatically, Samantha thought disaster had struck as she should have covered it to allow it to dry slowly. But as she showed a friend an image of the apparent disaster, her friend commented on how the cracks actually made the wing look better, and then suggested filling the cracks with gold, like Japanese Kintsugi (the art of precious scars), Samantha was thrilled with this idea and commented, "sometimes what appears to be a mistake, can reveal something so much better". This added even more meaning and dimension to the piece as a moment of enlightenment in the Wings of Cherubim's creation.

A mould was taken of the cracked wing sculpture and cast in transparent resin, with the cracks then filled with gold. The marble was then embossed by water jet CNC machine with the same sculpted detail of the resin wing to create a reflection in the contrasting marble material which inspired the entire piece. A brass ring embraces the two wings with central brass pieces representing elements of sacred geometry allowing the light to emit through the lamp creating a beam of light that spreads from the wall throughout the space.

PRICE: €65,000

NOMMOS

Designed by Samantha Oriegen Swaby



Materials used:
Grey Saint Laurent Marble, Hexagon plinths of
various heights
Brass, Lucite, Teak wood, Marble

Table size: 125cm x 185cm
(approx.)

NOMMOS

While Prometheus was inspired by the figure of a human face, in Nommos the stone evokes the image of a turtle, an amphibious and terrestrial creature, often the protagonist of myths and legends.

The inspiration no longer comes from Greek mythology but from the ancient traditions of the Dogon, a population originally from Mali who worshipped the so-called Nommos, also called "Masters of the waters", anthropomorphic spirits from the system of the Sirius star system and settled on earth to dwell in a watery realm. The name Nommos is therefore a tribute to these mythological creatures that, like the turtle, are characterized by the double bond with the earth and water. It is precisely this double bond that is represented by the Nommos piece of art in which the marble silhouette represents the turtle that rises from the water towards the mainland.

The hexagonal plinths, which recall the natural phenomenon of the Giants Causeway, surround the central structure and are created with materials that recall the five main elements present in nature: in this way earth, air, fire, water and ether correspond to wood, cut layered Lucite, brass and marble. The effect within the Lucite hexagon elements that represent air and water was created due to the restrictions of a long waiting time for the desired material of solid blocks of coloured Lucite. The artist and designer Samantha worked with the acrylic specialist to create the illusion of solid blocks, with the addition of optical glue sandwiched in between each layer to create the effect of clouds and water. The layers of Lucite were then polished to create an effect that is transformational; as one moves around the piece the Lucite hexagons change with each different angle of light. The unavailability of the solid Lucite blocks allowed for the creation of something more dynamic, and as on the Earth, it is these hexagon elements of air and water that bring the entire piece to life.

Nommos is a sculpture that can be used as a table or as a decorative element following the imagination of those who own it, as a real piece of art.

PRICE: €110,000

CONTACT

For further information on the Stories of Creation pieces or for commission enquiries
please contact:

info@slowstone.art . Tel: +44 (0) 203 664 0921

PR Contact:

OGS SRL PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATION

Via Koristka 3, 20154 Milano

Ph. +39 023450605

www.ogs.it - info@ogs.it

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