

SIDE GALLERY

THOMAS TAKADA



Table lamp Model "Maple Sapling"

Designed by Thomas Takada
Paris, 2026

Brass, Gold-plated finish, Electrical components

Measurements

15 × 20 × 72h cm
5,9 × 7,9 × 28,3h in

Edition

Unique piece
Produced exclusively for Side Gallery

About

The Maple Sapling lamps are the result of a collaborative process between Thomas Takada and the renowned craftsmanship of Goossens. Each lamp begins with the careful selection of young saplings, which are then hollowed, prepared, and cast in brass through a meticulous lost-wood process. The wood is encased in plaster and burned away, leaving a cavity that is filled with molten brass, transforming the living tree into enduring metal.

Once cast, the brass elements are assembled and gold-plated by Goossens, while the wiring is integrated seamlessly within the sculptural structure, allowing the sapling to carry light. Every aspect of the lamp is imbued with meaning: the type of tree, the transformation from wood to metal, the fragile equilibrium with the stone base, and the delicate skeleton leaves attached to the branches.

Through this process, the Maple Sapling lamps embody a poetic dialogue between nature and craftsmanship, fragility and permanence, organic growth and metallic transformation, highlighting both Takada's conceptual vision and Goossens' exquisite artisanal expertise.

Biography

Thomas Takada (b. Japan) is a French artist whose practice operates at the intersection of architecture, design, and contemporary art. His work engages critically with the environmental, cultural, and material conditions of the present, proposing a sensitive and poetic reconsideration of our relationship to the physical world in the context of the climate crisis. Born in Japan and raised in the United States, Takada developed a cross-cultural perspective that informs his approach to landscape, materiality, and perception. His formative years in the U.S. fostered a deep connection to 19th-century American thought, particularly the writings of Henry David Thoreau and the paintings of Thomas Cole, whose reflections on nature and the transformation of the landscape during industrialization continue to resonate within his work.

Takada studied architecture at the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris-Belleville, where he developed a methodology grounded in observation, material research, and conceptual clarity. His practice privileges a local and handcrafted approach, often based on the collection of found materials—organic or industrial—from specific environments. Through this process, he seeks to reveal overlooked qualities and latent narratives embedded within everyday matter.