

SIDE GALLERY

THOMAS TAKADA



Candelabra Model “Maple Sapling”
Produced exclusively for Side Gallery
France, 2026
Bronze, brass and 22k gold leaf

Measurements
20 × 20 × 70h cm
7,9 × 7,9 × 27,6h in

Edition
Unique Piece
Produced exclusively for Side Gallery

About

The Maple Sapling candelabra is created using direct lost-wood casting, an intricate process through which a real branch from a Norway maple tree is transformed into bronze. During casting, the original branch is completely consumed, allowing its finest natural details to be preserved while making it possible to produce only one bronze cast from each individual form.

Once cast, the branch is finished by hand with 22k gold leaf. The process evokes a form of alchemy, transforming an ephemeral fragment of the natural world into a seemingly permanent golden object. The resulting piece retains the irregularities, textures and delicate ramifications of the original branch, bringing together natural growth, material transformation and meticulous craftsmanship.

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