

# Formes & Matières

## Sophia Vari

Exhibition from May 19 to October 24, 2020

Opening in presence of the artist in september 2020

Date to be announced shortly



Bracelet *Eosphoros* : gilt bronze 18k yellow gold  
edition of 6 and 2 artist's proofs, signed and numbered, 2019



## The exhibition

**"Formes et Matières"** will be Sophia Vari's third solo exhibition at the *MINI* Masterpiece gallery (the previous ones having taken place in 2012 and 2015).

With an irresistible energy and desire to continue her work on form and balance, Sophia demonstrates once again the extent of her talent as a sculptor – albeit this time at the service of miniature sculptures. The exhibition is to present more than 60 pieces of jewellery, half of which were designed in 2019 and have never before been shown in France. Highlighting unusual materials – epoxy, ziricote, marble, ebony, aluminium and titanium – and without ever compromising the elegance that characterises her work, Sophia Vari pays tribute to form and femininity.



© Richard Gianorio

## Portrait

Born in Athens in 1940 to a Greek father and a Hungarian mother, **Sophia Vari** is a painter and sculptor. She lives and works in Monaco, Italy and Greece. She is married to Colombian artist Fernando Botero. Since the mid-seventies, her monumental polychrome works have become known around the world through solo and group exhibitions, public commissions and participation in major international fairs.

Sophia Vari started painting at the age of 16 but quickly felt the need to express herself through another medium. A trip to Egypt in 1978 led her to understand the importance of monumental sculpture, and from then on bronze and marble were included in the gamut of her work. To further develop her pleasure in working with colour, she has turned to creating assembled works on canvas, in which she no longer "creates with volume but with colour, while preserving the sculptural awareness of form". Sophia Vari is also recognised for her jewellery creations. As with her sculptures, Vari borrows from Greek mythology for the titles of her jewellery. Her sculptures-to-wear gracefully combine geometric lines and sensual curves, and have for over twenty years demonstrated approaches to a wide variety of surprising and noble materials.



Press release

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Necklace *Piéros* : red epoxy and leather, 2019, signed unique piece



## Press release

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Ring *Mégara* : zircote wood, aluminum and brass, 2019  
edition of 6 and 2 artist's proofs, signed and numbered



Ring *Autolykos* : black marble from Belgium and 18k yellow gold, 2019  
edition of 3 and 2 artist's proofs, signed and numbered



Ring *Daedalion* : gilt brass 18k yellow gold, 2019  
edition of 8 and 2 artist's proofs, signed and numbered



## Press release

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Pendent *Arcas* : black and white epoxy, sterling silver and trimmings, 2018  
edition of 3 and 2 artist's proofs, signed and numbered

**HIGH DEFINITION IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**





## The Gallery

Galerie MiniMasterpiece, created in the Spring of 2012 by **Esther de Beaucé**, is the first Parisian gallery exclusively dedicated to the edition and sale of jewellery by renown contemporary visual artists and designers.

Like a very private collection that one wears and carries along, artists jewellery first strike by the love, the friendship and the challenge that have preceeded their existence. These miniature works of art tell us about another History of Art, that of intimacy and passion.

For collectors, choosing an artist or a designer jewel, wearing it around the neck, the wrist or the finger, is a statement. For the artists it is both a pastime and a challenge, that is to achieve the successfull confrontation of their monumental work to the scale of the body. Those who have so far worked directly with the gallery include the artists **Claude Lévêque, François Morellet, Phillip King, Jean-Luc Moulène, Françoise Pétrovitch, Barthélémy Togu, Carlos Cruz Diez, Katinka Bock, Miguel Chevalier, Vera Molnar, Pablo Reinoso, Andres Serrano, Faust Cardinali, Nicolas Buffe, Nøne Futbol Club...** and designers **François Azambourg, Pierre Charpin, Pierre Gonalons, Cédric Ragot, Constance Guisset, David Dubois, Christian Ghion, Nestor Perkal, A+A Cooren, Maurice Marty** and **Frédéric Ruyant**.

**Yann Delacour**, artist, sculptor and photographer has created the visual identity of the gallery. He creates all scenographies at the gallery and for several booth fairs (Design Basel, Art Paris, PAD Paris, Collective Design NY...).

Esther de Beaucé | Galerie MiniMasterpiece  
16 rue des Saints-Pères, 75007, Paris