

Galerie MINIMASTERPIECE

PRESS RELEASE



PHILLIP KING

ELEVATION

Solo show February 9 to April 6, 2024
Opening Thursday February 8 from 5 to 8 PM
in presence of Judy Corbalis King



RING « **Moon Halo** » sterling silver, vermeil and colored lacquer
2021-2024, edition of 8, édition MiniMasterpiece © MiniMasterpiece

On July 27, 2021, in London, **Phillip King** passed away.

The next day in Paris, I received at the gallery in a box posted by the artist the previous week, what would remain his final artistic creations: prototypes of rings and cuffs in painted cardboard and wood.

Since 2016, **Phillip** and I have gotten into the habit of conversing on the subject of artist jewelry. He made models, sent me photos of the jewelry in progress worn on his fingers or wrist. I gave him my opinion and when we were both convinced, he sent me the models to Paris so that the goldsmith could continue the operations under our attentive eyes. The preciousness of gold or silver entered into dialogue with his volumes of bright colors. The long-dreamed-of wearable sculpture would finally be placed on the body.

This is how, in 2017, **Phillip** created his first piece of jewelry for the gallery, the "Liaisons Amoureuses" pendant, whose colorful and intertwined volumes are a summary of his artistic research.



Phillip King wearing one of his ring prototype.
Spring 2021, Londres



Born in Tunis in 1934, **Phillip King** is a British sculptor whose work is defined by the richness and variety of forms and materials. He is, alongside Anthony Caro, Richard Long and Barry Flanagan, the inventor of modern English sculpture from the early 1960s.

A former assistant to Henry Moore, from 1962 he did not hesitate to exploit materials usually far removed from abstract vocabulary and to make them communicate with each other or with found industrial objects.

From then on, **King** dared to use very bright colors (acid greens and electric blues, orange and pure yellow) in a rather chromophobic period. Color in his work thus occupies a fundamental place, it is almost a material in itself and like a fourth dimension.

King's works have all the qualities of sculpture: weight, mass, balance, volume... His work is focused on thinking about weight, gravity and the means available to overcome them. It is through color that he will find the means to elevate matter. The color punctuates and punctuates the volumes. It disrupts information on matter.

From 2016, **King** will approach the question of wearable sculpture through the same prism of elevation.

Phillip King is represented by Thomas Dane (Londres), Luhring Augustine (New York) and Ceysson & Bénétière. His works are part of numerous private and public collections around the world (Tate Britain – Londres, MoMA – New York, Centre Pompidou – Paris, MOCA – Los Angeles, Rijksmuseum – Amsterdam, Royal Academy of Arts – Londres, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Berardo Museum – Lisbonne to name a few).

The *ELEVATION* exhibition - in posthumous tribute to the artist - will present a set of five jewels including three never-seen before pieces: ring, cuff and pendants in silver, 18k yellow gold and colored lacquers.



Pendants « ***Liaisons amoureuses*** » 18k yellow gold, sterling silver and colored lacquer.
2017, edition of 8, édition MiniMasterpiece © Yann Delacour



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 Joana **Vasconcelos**, Wang Keping, Jean-Luc **Moulène**, Julio **Le Parc**, François **Morellet**, Katinka **Bock**, Barthélémy **Toguo**, Françoise **Pétrovitch**, Véra **Molnar**, Nicolas **Buffe**, Carlos **Cruz-Diez**, Philippe **Ramette**, Phillip **King**, Miguel **Chevalier**, Pablo **Reinoso**, Sophia **Vari**, Andres **Serrano**, **None Futbol Club**, Faust **Cardinali**, Jacqueline **de Jong** and designers Christian **Ghion**, Pierre **Charpin**, Constance **Guisset**, Pierre **Gonalons**, Nestor **Perkal**, David **Dubois**, François **Azambourg**, **A+A Cooren**, Frédéric **Ruyant**, Maurice **Marty** and Cédric **Ragot**.