
Mnemos 02

Asymptote

Hani Rashid & Lise Anne Couture

18th Century snuff boxes revisited

Mnemos, an abbreviation of the name Mnemosyne, the Greek Goddess of Remembrance.

The American architects Asymptote, designed a series of exquisite gold boxes, reintroducing the once highly coveted and collectable precious snuff boxes. In the 18th Century, snuff boxes were the height of sophistication, not only for collectors, but also for Parisian goldsmiths. The artisans of the time constantly aimed to outreach each other with new finishes and new mechanisms.

Mnemos_02 is a gift box, or bonbonnière, for one's most precious belongings. The bonbonnière is made in vermeil otherwise known as silver gilt, and holds three handmade compartments, either in purpleheart wood or in golden satinwood. The design across the top is a wave raised and shaped into the gilded silver, which breaks along all four sides of the box in the same fashion.

Vermeil

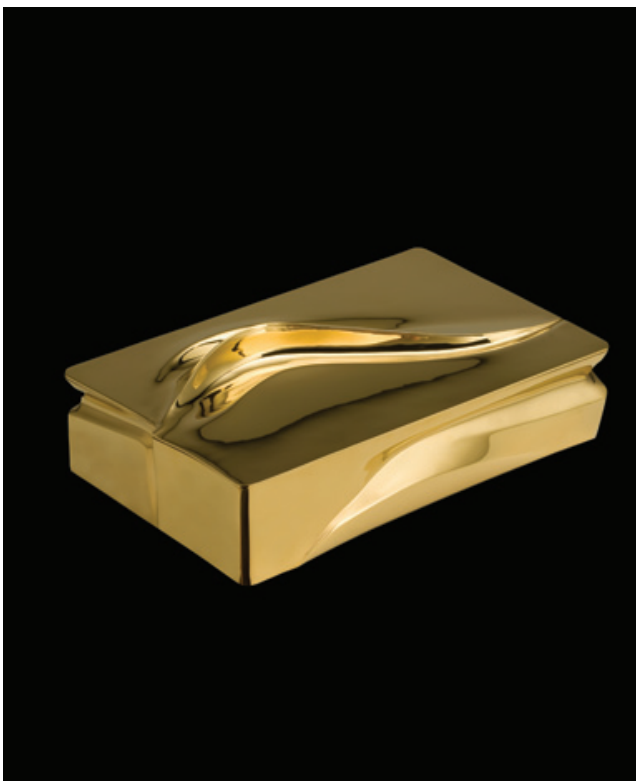
Purpleheart

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22 x 15 x 7.5 cm

8.7 x 5.9 x 3.0 in

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Meta

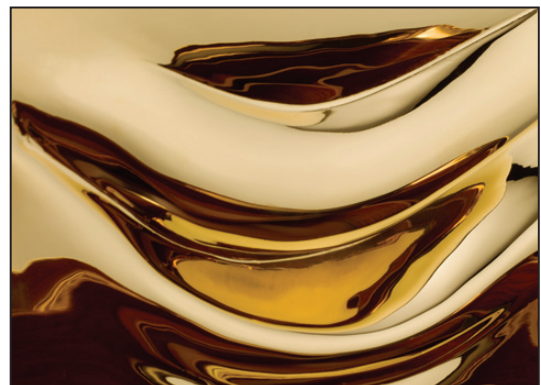
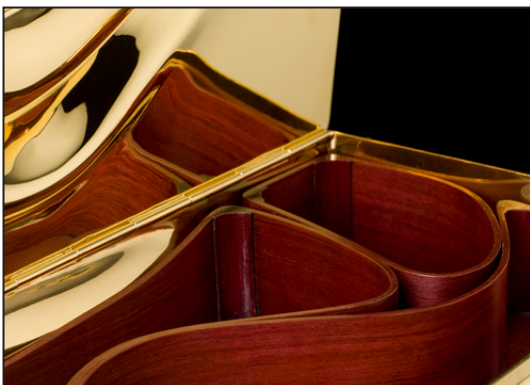
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“We thought it was a good opportunity to hybridize our digital media with the hardcore older techniques and materials.” *Hani Rashid*



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