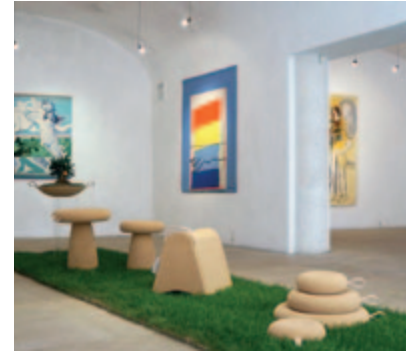




INTERNATIONAL DESIGNERS ILLUMINATE THE FOREST IN THE DOMAINE DE BOISBUCHET WITH CORK

The prestigious designer, Rona Meyuchas Koblenz, founder and creative director of the Kukka project and Kukka Studio was invited to coordinate the design workshop "Illuminating the Woods", in the Domaine de Boisbuchet, which involved the cooperation of Corticeira Amorim.





THE DESIGN NATURAL EXHIBITION, BY PAULO PARRA, RETURNS WITH CORK

The project, Design Natural, by the accredited Portuguese designer, Paulo Parra, has returned with a new exhibition, organised in partnership with the Gallery of Tapeçarias de Portalegre and with support from Amorim Cork Composites, in an initiative that presents iconic works produced in cork.

The exhibition includes new and renovated works – such as the iconic Portuguese Saddle, created in 1996 – that propose a new approach to cork and other traditional natural materials, through multi-use and playful objects. Offering an alternative to industrial production, these objects have unique characteristics, in particular because they respect the natural value of the origins and unique properties of their raw materials and provide a unique sensory experience.

This exhibition is organised in the framework of the 7th edition of the Arts Neighbourhood – The Cultural Rentrée of the Seventh Hill, which includes the spaces and galleries of the Príncipe Real and Bairro Alto, in Lisbon. The exhibition, that runs from September 22 to January 22, aims to raise the awareness of painters, sculptors, designers and architects regarding potential uses of cork.

The invitation was made by Alexander von Vegesack, President of the Domaine de Boisbuchet and founder of the Vitra Design Museum. Inspired by the natural elements of the forest environment, in this materials design workshop, participants were challenged to create sustainable cork lanterns that can be powered by wind and solar energy.



According to Rona Meyuchas Koblenz: “The participants were encouraged to work together to conceive and develop lighting solutions for the forest. I wanted them to observe, listen and learn how to be surrounded by this amazing natural habitat and in this sense, use of cork was an obvious choice”, adding that: “Cork was selected for its natural credentials, versatility and sustainability. It is a raw material that is easy to work with and can be used in different ways, offering endless opportunities.”

As usual, the workshop lasted a week, and during this period 10 designers of various nationalities – from Dubai, Taiwan, Spain, USA, Peru, Japan and Lithuania – and different cultural backgrounds, had the opportunity to come into contact with cork as a raw material and developed lighting solutions for the idyllic forest setting of Boisbuchet.