

# HEREND

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# herald

MAGAZINE OF THE HEREND PORCELAIN MANUFACTORY



CURIOSITIES

*Finned terrestrial creatures*

CULTURE

*It's my turn*

BEHIND THE SCENE

*Giant Dragon Turtle*

# GYŐRI BALETT

BALLET COMPANY  
OF GYŐR • HUNGARY



## DEAR HEREND HERALD READERS,

*A dream becomes reality!*

Dreams do not always become reality but only those who have dreams can shape the future! The rock of the present stands on the border between past and future, but it is left to us to build on it. While the relay baton is in your hand your only job is to run with all your strength, to leave more to posterity than what you received from your ancestors!

Years ago we dared to dream a bold dream: let us build Herend Porcelain Manufactory's largest ever flagship brand-store, the *Herend Porcelain Palace* in the heart of Budapest, on József Nádor Square. We set out to make plans! With one foot firmly planted on the ground, we took a step forward with the other. We sought extraordinary solutions and noble materials; we dreamed up a store that would be worthy of and fitting to Herend Porcelain, which projects luxury, indulgence and elegance. Our dream was a space befitting the rendezvous between Porcelain and its Palace. We dared to think creatively and innovatively, we had to "only" focus on recognizing, exploiting and deploying creativity. We knew that creativity can overcome routine. We were ready to try new things in order to discover the beauty of the future. We doted over our drawing boards like a parent dotes over her child, we knew that love begets love and creates value. We knew that we were planting a seed to leave a growing tree behind. We just had to get started and the creative spark burst into flames. Everything found its place, the final interior design plan was completed and the *dream* came to life.

And now that the *Herend Porcelain Palace* is ready, what we see is *reality* born from the dream with tears in our eyes. Some say that teardrops are in fact telescopes that let you look to the sky. These are tears of joy, the happiness of birth. Three stories, more than five hundred square metres, home to nearly twenty thousand (!) Herend porcelain objects, our "crown jewel" store was born. And how peculiar it is that it was completed exactly thirty years after we opened our first independent store in 1988. We, of course, know that there are no coincidences; as it was the case in the past, we have once again arrived at a milestone, a milestone that designates and determines our Manufactory's long-term future. We lived a feast, we drew strength from this celebration of birth and while we think of those who helped create it, we continue down our path since we know that we must leave more to posterity than what we received from the past.

I respectfully invite you to visit the *Herend Porcelain Palace* to see for yourself how we were able to link our 19th century traditions with the modern expectations of the 21st century!

Thank you for your kind attention,  
Sincerely,

Dr. Attila Simon  
Chief Executive Officer



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Managing editor: Dr. Attila Simon  
 Editor: Rita Cserhalmi  
 Design: Mátai és Végh Kreatív Műhely  
 Translation: Erika Éles Varga, Éva Pálvölgyi, Judit Molnár, Györgyné Palkovics,  
 Mihály Kál Pintér, Zsuzsanna Kovács, Zsuzsa Lajos  
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 Editorial: Mátai és Végh Kreatív Műhely,  
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 kreativmuhely@kreativmuhely.hu

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AMBIENTE  
FRANKFURT 2018

New product introductions of the Herend Porcelain Manufactory attracted more visitors than ever as an increasing number of countries show interest in the brand. Porcelain creations in over 200 new patterns and over 30 new shapes were on display in the Herend Showroom. In the "Awards of Excellence 2018" competition, Herend claimed two prizes, which were awarded from among 300 submissions by a jury of 26 respected

international judges. The Bravura Vase won first prize in the Artisanal category, whilst the VHS Vase was placed in the top three in the Decorative Category. The symbolism of the Bravura Vase was an expression of nature and its fragile strength and eternal cycle. This year's sensation of the Herend booth was the giant dragon turtle designed by Erika Éles-Varga.

Marvellous  
HEREND  
Exhibitions



An exhibition titled Herend Variations opened in the Lendva Castle. This is the first Herend exhibition in Slovenia, which affords a new opportunity to fulfil Herend's cultural mission. The theme of the exhibition is polychromatism including entrancing colour variations, breathtaking bravura pieces and stylish tableware collections. The castle also makes room for the fascinating history of Herend's best known design, the Victoria pattern, covering the time period from 1851 until today. Another piece of interest is the porcelain guestbook, a vase on which visitors may write comments with their own hand.



"Bellis perennis Herendiensis"  
– or Mary's Rose

Herend Porcelain Manufactory's first exhibition of the year opened in Jászberény, the Capital of the "Jász-realm", in the museum that houses the legendary horn of Lehel. The exhibition celebrates the arrival of spring with an examination of the season's thousand faces and the festivities of the spring holidays. With countless splendid, flowery patterns, vivid and fresh colours, the exhibition brought real effervescence and elation to the exhibition halls. Of course, the exhibition pays special attention to Rose Déryné Széppataki, the most celebrated actress of her era who was born in this city.

# Cypriot TOUCH

On the Island of Love, visitors had the opportunity to be a part of the rendezvous between Herend and Cyprus in an exhibition titled "Touch me Herend". The beachfront Hotel Royal Appolonia provided the exclusive venue for this unparalleled exhibition showing nearly 200 Herend porcelain pieces. The high regard for this exhibition is indicated by the fact that in addition to Dr. Attila Simon, managing director of the Herend Porcelain Manufactory, Mr. Erik Haupt, Hungary's ambassador to Athens also gave a speech.



## "I like HEREND"

"Some say that there are always two paths ahead of us: the safe one and the one we were destined to travel. (...) This rings true for Herend, which travels the path it was born for. That is why each and every piece of porcelain is infused with its past: the founder and every aristocratic customer; but also with the modernity, integrity, courage, and ability of continuous renewal of the 21st century. Tradition and innovation. This duality is the path that Herend Porcelain was born for."—said the "Jászai Mari" prize winning actress Judit Schell in her ceremonial address at the opening of the innovative Herend exhibition that took place in the Festival Space of the Palace of Arts. This exceptional exhibition includes almost 400 objects with 250 of these floating over the visitor's heads, which is a novel and unique solution for a public installation.



## Homecoming

Herend Porcelain Manufactory exhibited its objects of royal elegance in the imperial city of Vienna, as part of its cultural mission. For some pieces of the Herend porcelain exhibits it was a homecoming, since countless Herend artworks could be found in the imperial court in the 19th century. In the striking building of the Hungarian Embassy, almost 200 Herend Porcelain objects can be admired, some of which are exceptional bravura pieces and rarely exhibited works of arts. A perfect porcelain copy of the Holy Crown of Hungary, a replica of the fountain created by Mór Fischer for Franz Joseph and the legendary Maria Theresa ornamental platter are among the most interesting pieces on display.



## DANCING IN THE TEMPLE

### ÉVA PÁLVÖLGYI

# Classic Indian Dances

#### DANCING GODS

Myths say that dance was created by none other than Brahma in response to the request of the gods who wished to provide mankind with an art form that is pleasing to the eye, whose sounds rouse admiration, and which can be practiced by anyone.

From among the 108 names of Shiva, the most frequently used is Nateshvara, the dancing god, which refers to one of the most ancient beliefs about the creation of the world. Creation appears as Shiva's dance. The most beautiful image of this divine activity is the dancing Shiva statue that has become a symbol of Indian culture over time.

#### ON THE PATH OF TRADITION

Bharatanatyam, the several-thousand-year-old sacred dance from South-India represents the oldest unbroken tradition among the dance styles of India. It was originally a solo dance performed for centuries by the devadasis, the dancers of temples. They started very young, at the age of five but it took years of studies before they could become "holy dancers of god". In fact, they never grew too old to dance because their dance performances became more mature with age, as long as that they were able to bear the physical burden. Their clothes were woven with gold threads and

they owned jewellery in abundance. Their heads were adorned with the temple's real pearls, which were an essential accessory for the bharatanatyam dance. On the top of their heads they pinned symbols of the Sun, the Moon and the stars as a reference to the whole universe.

The music and songs are based on the works of classic Sanskrit, Telugu and Tamil poets. The accompanying musical instrument is the mridangam, a long drum with tapered ends. The dancer starts her performance by first touching the ground and then her forehead with her hands.

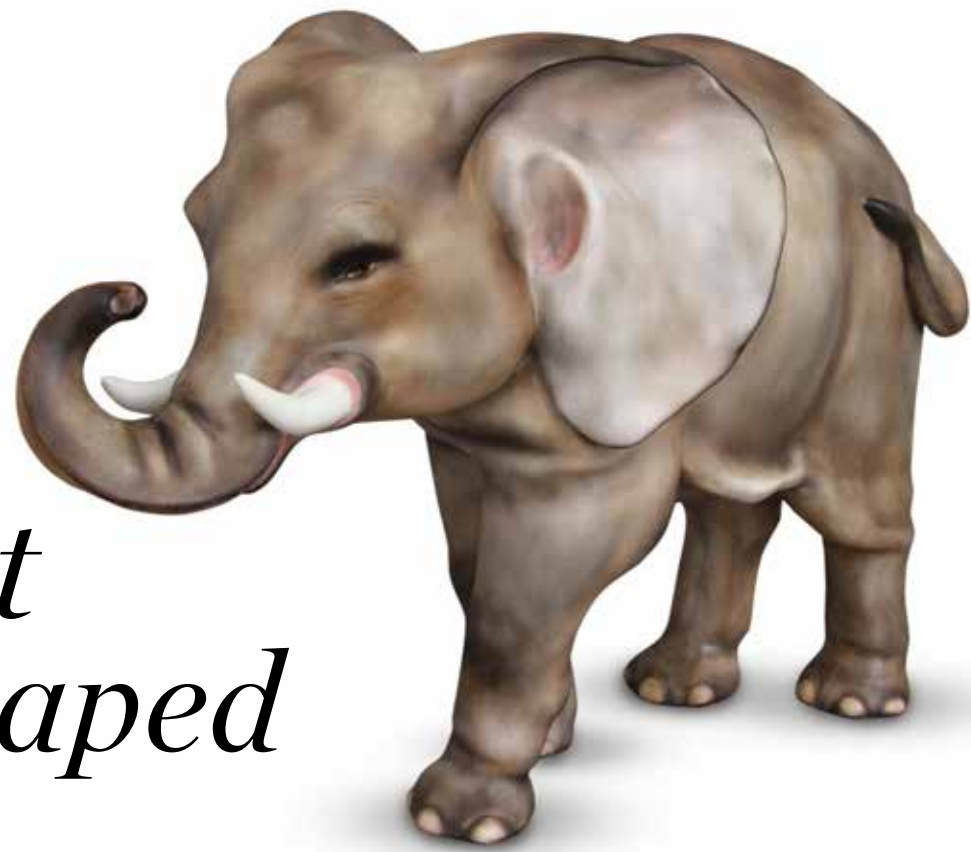
With this move she expresses her deep respect towards the Earth and asks permission for treading on it. Beyond Mother Earth they offer their deep respect to their guru. It is typical for all classic dances that the fingers and the soles of feet are painted red to emphasize their importance.

#### STRICT FRAMEWORKS

The stylistic, performance and technical rules of the dance originate from two ancient documents. Natyasastra is the "dancer's manual" that contains the elements of the dance dramas as well as strict rules concerning music, lyrics, dance, and make-up. Abhinayadarpana, the "mirror of expression", describes the movements. It covers the minute details of the slightest movements of every part of the body from head to toe, hand gestures (mudra), poses (asana), foot gestures (pada chari), waist movements (kati) and eye movements (dristsis). Every movement has symbolic meaning. In simpler cases these symbols are easily understood but there are movements whose meaning is only understandable by those in the know. Since movements may have several meanings, only the story, the action can help us with the correct interpretation. Schools of classic Indian dance are built on these general rules.



# A unique world that cannot be escaped



MIHÁLY KÁL PINTÉR

Back in the day we learned from the series "Cirkus Humberto" that a circus dynasty lives by very strict rules. A member of such a family is either an acrobat, animal tamer or clown. Those who aren't quite good enough do administrative work or even sweep the floors.

YES, BUT WHERE WAS THE FIRST CIRCUS ESTABLISHED?

At the beginning of the 1700s, a Londoner, Philip Astley enriched the program of a riding school with contemporary show-elements. The first circuses operated in the United States and France. In 1870 in England wild animals were introduced into the ring thus extending the range of acts.

Perhaps the circus environment is a little bit more conservative than necessary. It could be said that even marriages are born in the ring. The lives of children are not simple either. Once upon a time they made their way from the country to towns in the mud and rain. Schools in bigger towns let the

children spend a few days inside their walls. They even issued attendance certificates. Nowadays, in the internet age most children are home schooled. Thus, they can virtually attend their schools in addition to their circus work. The travelling circus season goes from March to November. After eight or nine months on the road, the circus performers return home and children have the time to catch up on schoolwork if necessary.

The travelling circus lifestyle is quite varied. There are no specific female and male roles. Everybody performs every task. Women drive lorries and perform hard physical labour. Every week, or even every few days, they must work together to erect the temporary "city" that will serve as their home away from home.

Monte Carlo is host to the most prestigious circus festival. The highest regarded circus artists are invited annually. Festival tickets are best purchased well in advance. Rainer III Prince of Monaco loved the circus, especially wild animal acts. He was a patron of the artists and wanted to

see the best companies show their skills on a single stage. This is why he invited them to Monaco, and performing there has been by invitation only ever since. Judges evaluate the technical merits and execution of the performances. A separate youth festival is organised for artists under twenty years old.

## Did you know?

- The best known circus music accompanying the entrance of the clowns is a piece titled Entrance of the Gladiators composed by a Czech military musician Julius Fučík. Fučík was born in the territory of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1872. His patriotic opuses are still enthusiastically played in the Czech Republic.
- The name circus derives from the Latin word circus (circle) and connotes the circular chariot racing track that was sometime built around a round stage and the institution of entertaining spectacles.
- The first clowns were poor peasants who had no opportunity to participate in other acts or to ride horses. They performed jolly and amusing pieces during the breaks of the earliest circus performances in England.



ÉVA PÁLVÖLGYI

# Exclusive HEREND PALACE

## OPENED IN THE HEART OF THE CITY OF BUDAPEST

After a total reconstruction based on new architectural thinking, the shop formerly known as Apponyi Brand Store is now open for business under the name of Herend Porcelain Palace. With more than five hundred square meters of floor space over three stories, and an amazing selection of nearly twenty thousand objects with a total value exceeding 500 million Forints, the new flagship store of the Hungarian retail network of Herend Porcelain Manufactory Ltd. offers an enchanting taste of Herend's world. We talked with the architect and designer Marcell Benson about the new palace.

### *What was the architectural concept during the design process?*

The basic task was designing a modern, 21st century, contemporary commercial retail space that represents lasting value in the life of the city of Budapest.

### *Herend's tenet, its essence, is the duality of tradition and innovation at its core. How is this reflected in the Palace?*

For me, the most exciting challenge was finding the balance between the modern and classic interiors that goes beyond the functional and required modern retail systems of the store to create an intimate environment to display Herend products, and which also provides visitors with an informal, flowing space in a pleasant and exciting milieu.

A question asked many times during the design process was how can we create a really contemporary space with modern design and fabrication tools for such a high-quality, traditional and historical Hungarian manufactory whose roots are almost two hundred years old.

I found the answer in the modern - and - classic duality. Where this modern interior was created on classical foundations and construction principles.

### *What makes the Herend Porcelain Palace special? What unique architectural solutions do we see?*

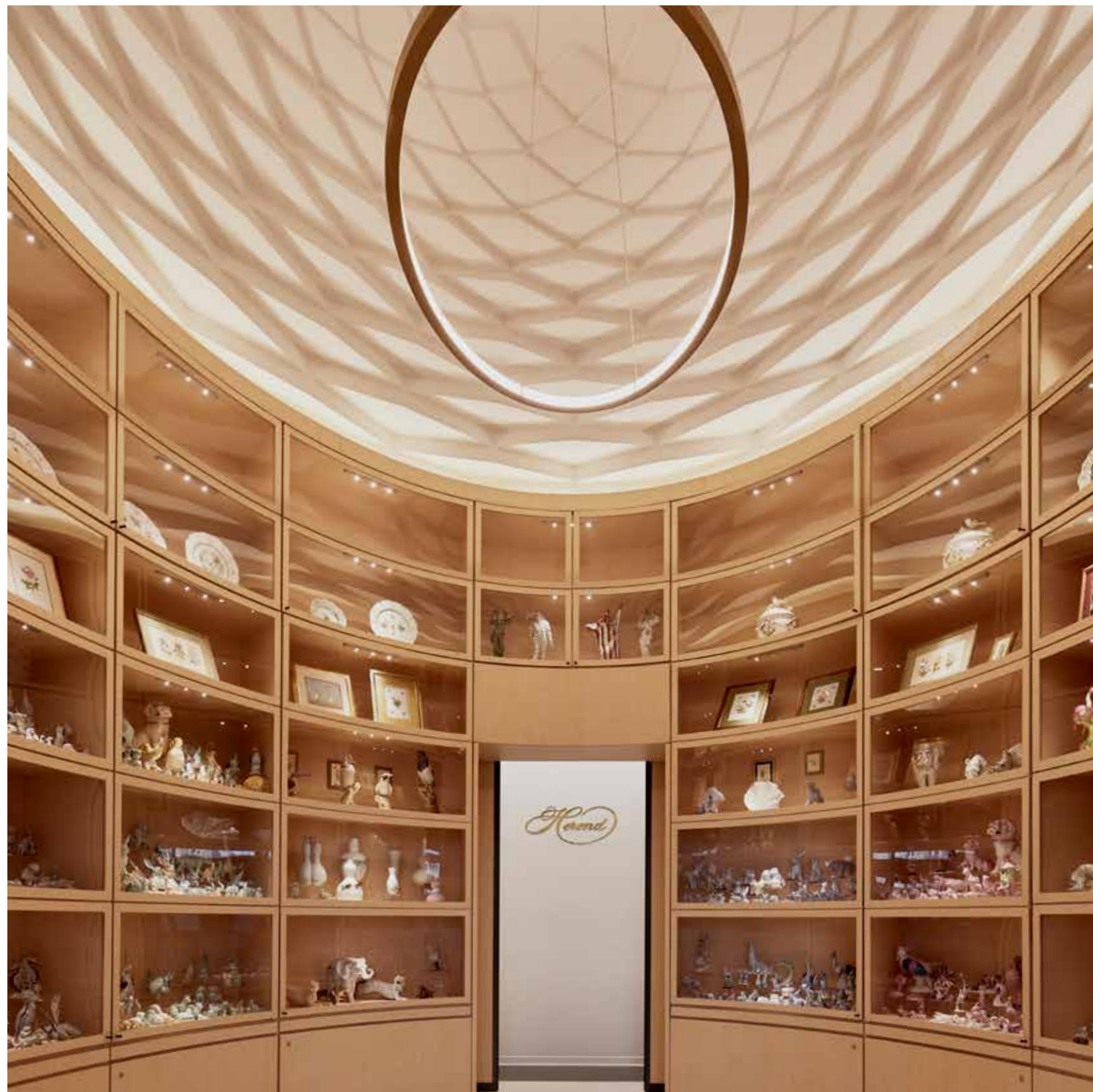
From the countless unique solutions, I would highlight the oval-shaped Kiln Plaza located at the focal point of the shop. This is a tall, arched space within the space, surrounded by small display cases with curved glass fronts. The lustrous copper border profile in-lays of the Statuario marble floor and the Herend logo at the centre further intensify the effect. The space is topped by a unique dome in the shape of the Herend Osier porcelain weave motif, which casts shadows from the hidden, circular LED lighting to create a special sense of space. The main motif and inspiration for its design came from the inside of a large porcelain kiln. One of the original kilns can still be seen in the museum of the Herend Porcelain Manufactory.

Another exciting solution is the expansive plate-wall displaying 112 unique Herend plates, which is located above the canopy on the wall directly facing us as we enter through the main entrance on József Nádor Square, Budapest. At the entrance of the Porcelain Palace a Victoria pattern butterfly from the 19th century awaits the visitors. We would be happy if the shop was not only a retail location but at the same time a community space and a tourist experience centre, as well. This is exactly why we created a Pottery hobby-workshop on the lower level where guests can put their porcelain painting talents to the test.

Another extraordinary experience is the unique, backlit, tampered-glass floor of the exhibition hall on the basement level, which is equipped with hidden RGB LED lighting. In the exhibition spaces the wall finishes, the furniture faces and the ceilings are predominantly darkly coloured, and whose dark tones are beautifully balanced by the bright lights of the glass floor and the yellow ochre fabric wallpaper covering the inner surfaces of the display cases.

### *What characterises the use of materials?*

In the retail space on the ground floor light colours dominate, whilst the lower level is exactly the opposite with its dark finishes. Generally white, black, beige and gold appearing on various textures and surfaces are the most typical.



About the designer:

### MARCELL BENSON

architect - interior designer  
Received his diploma from the Architectural Institute of MOME "Moholy-Nagy" University of Arts, with a special prize from the chair of the examination committee and the Árkay Aladár prize.  
CraftBenson Architecture / Design  
<http://www.craftbenson.com>



FOTÓ: ZSOLT BATÁR

## Did you know?

Gömböc (or gomboc) is the first known homogenous body that has just two points of equilibrium, one stable and one unstable. Put the Gömböc down in any orientation and it will always return to its stable point of equilibrium. The significance of the invention of Gömböc—whose creators were Hungarians—is most comparable to the Rubik cube's. The Herend porcelain Gömböc is the first, functional, nonhomogenous Gömböc. Only Herend was able to manufacture a hollow porcelain Gömböc, potentially opening new avenues of research, utilisation, and manufacturing for this invention.

# 3D *wallpapers*

ÉVA PÁLVÖLGYI

## SPECTACULARLY TRICKY SPACES

There are very few design elements as eye-catching as 3D wallpaper. No matter what kind of room or living space it is, a well-chosen wallpaper can magically transform the space. It is not a coincidence that over the last few years these have been the most popular type of wall-covering.

Without a doubt, the greatest advantage of 3D, realistic, photo wallpapers is that they offer the intrinsic advantages of wallpaper and at the same time provide premium appearance in terms of design. Should we want to spruce up our home with a very unique or special design element without demolishing walls, 3D wallpapers offer a state-of-the-art solution.

One factor that greatly contributes to the popularity of innovative photo wallpapers is their ability to significantly increase the available space. Their designs create the illusion of three-dimensionality, which expands any space.

However, no matter how tempted we may be by the ever more exciting 3D ideas and solutions, they can only be used to our advantage if they strengthen the harmony of our home in style, colours and design. Given the dizzying selection, we can find solutions to match any style, personality and situation.

The essence of the geometric, three-dimensional wallpapers is that their design projects from the plane of the wall and thus the wallpaper becomes astonishingly lifelike and endows the wall surface with a sense of depth or elevation. Single or multi-coloured accent rugs, vases and other accessories match brilliantly with their modern and futuristic illusion of depth and distance.

The huge selection of forms and colours of Herend porcelains complement most styles superbly. Whether understated, dark or bright colours, or a modern or classic look, Herend accessories provide refinement and presence that can easily express any personality or attitude.



Peoples of ancient Egypt cultivated their fields, ate from clay pots, weaved canvas, harvested grain with metal sickle and—what is rarely mentioned—enjoyed passing time with board games.

#### EVEN BEYOND DEATH

Senet is one of the oldest board games to be discovered in ancient (five-six thousand year old) Egyptian tombs. On a board arranged in a three by ten grid, 2 players with 5 pieces each competed to get from the first square to the last. The set included a wood, stone or ceramics box with a drawer to store the pieces and throwing sticks. Some senet boards were more ornate while others were less decorated, however, they all had one thing in common: the last five squares were all adorned with decorative elements. The most exiting moves were probably made on boards that symbolised the underworld and whose squares the deceased had to pass after his death. These boards were not made for everyday use but as burial accessories. The players seemingly playing alone depicted on wall-paintings in tombs played not against an invisible opponent but their own soul.

#### GO – A SQUARE FOR EVERY DAY

The origins of Go, a territory-capturing game with worldwide appeal, are rooted in the ancient Chinese empires. The oldest go board is 4000 years old. Rules are simple; the essence of the game is that the two players compete to place the largest possible number of pieces on the intersections of a 19 by 19 grid, i.e. to acquire the largest possible territory.

The pieces are completely identical stones differing only in colour. Opponents are differentiated by two colours: black and white. A particular feature of far-eastern military tradition was the need to move large numbers of otherwise identical combat units, thus go provided military leaders with visual assistance in elaborating their strategy. However, to allow go to survive millennia and various dynasties, something more was needed. The game was infused with the essence of Chinese philosophy, it could illustrate the powers that made the universe move. These basic powers are built on the duality principle such as day-night, birth-death, male-female, black and white.

The board's 361 intersections symbolised the days of the year and its 4 corners, the four seasons, thus it helped navigate time and was also used in fortune telling.

#### CHESS, THE PRICELESS GAME

Chess started its triumphant worldwide march from India. Legend says that the game was invented by a wise Brahmin because his emperor, Raja Shehran, was unable to overcome his boredom. The game was a great success and the Raja wished to reward its inventor. The Brahmin's request seemed quite modest: one grain of wheat for each square on the board and for each square twice as many as the preceding one. The emperor was surprised that such a wise man would ask for so little. However, it soon became clear that he could not come close to paying the price, since there weren't enough grains of wheat on earth.

Chess reached Europe via the Arab world and became widespread in the Middle Ages. The first chess book in Europe was produced in 1283 on the request of Alfonso the wise king of Castile.

# It's MY turn

JUDIT MOLNÁR



#### DID YOU KNOW?

- Checkmate comes from Persian Shah Mat, which means "the king is dead".
- An artificial intelligence named Alpha Zero acquired and surpassed chess knowledge of centuries in December 2017. This software needed only 4 hours to learn the game and immediately played on grand-master level.



The masters of Herend had a great dream. And dreams in Herend often have a way of coming to life, in this case in the shape of a giant dragon turtle. This sizeable, one-of-a-kind artwork was created based on the design of artist-designer Erika Éles-Varga. The procedure required a record number of working hours of design, preparation, gypsum and of course expert hands. The gigantic porcelain masterpiece is a real tour-de-force of innovation, its creation almost reached the technological limits of manufactural porcelain production.

The dragon turtle (龙龟, Lóngguī) is a legendary creature of Chinese mythology, a chimera composed of four heavenly animals. The dragon-headed turtle can be found in Beijing, in the Forbidden City. This is a truly ancient symbol. The figure of the dragon turtle popularises the positive decorations of Feng Shui that symbolise courage, dedication, fertility, longevity, power, success and support. This creature—decorative figurine—traditionally faces toward the window. According to ancient Chinese beliefs, a cosmic-sized sea turtle carries Earth on his shell and is therefore the supporter of the world. It was one of the four holy animals along with the dragon,

phoenix and unicorn. Taoists ate the long-lived cranes, and the eggs and brains of turtles in the hope of becoming immortal. Its finely ground shell was considered an aphrodisiac. The dragon is the symbol of wisdom, courage, and connections with the inhabitants of heaven. The turtle's strong shell means protection and support for Earth, which originated from the gods. Meanwhile the rectangular foundation symbolises Earth. This is how the dragon-headed turtle connects the heavenly creatures with man on Earth. This exclusive porcelain rarity is extraordinary in terms of its size, detail and decoration.

ERIKA ÉLES VARGA

# Giant Dragon Turtle

A LEGEND COMES TO LIFE

## THE GIANT TURTLE IN NUMBERS:

- 3 months of modelling
- 2 tons of gypsum (body mould, feet, neck, working mould)
- 10 artisans of Herend in the gypsum workshop
- 1400 working hours (6 months) for the gypsum mould
- 10 potters' work in the pottery workshop
- 10 workers' collaboration in the firing, polishing, transportation, technology, assembly and packaging phases of production
- 3 months of drying and firing
- Altogether: 9 months of work by 30 Herend craftsmen

## PARAMETERS OF THE TURTLE:

- Length: 1200 mm
- Height: 800 mm
- Width: 700 mm
- Weight: 68 kg



# Finned Terrestrial CREATURES

ZSUZSANNA KOVÁCS

The 50s and 60s in America were indisputably an emblematic age whose cultural effects can be felt to this day. This was an era of such world-famous stars as Audrey Hepburn, James Dean, Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley. Television gained a central place and role in households, automobile manufacturing started to flourish and iconic vehicles were born that garner enthusiastic followers to this day.

During a single decade, 30 million vehicles appeared on the roads of the United States and became real status symbols. With their enormous fins, chrome plating and futuristic styling they evoked jet aircraft the most. From among the countless models, there were some that stood out and became the dream of all collectors. One such example is the Cadillac Eldorado Convertible, one of the most gorgeous and expensive luxury cars. The Eldorado name is attributed to a secretary of the manufacturer who submitted it in response to a request by the director of General Motors.

propelled it a maximum speed of 135 km/hour, although, consequently its fuel consumption was only 11.8 litres.

Cadillac was global pioneer in several areas. In the 20s they were the first to use lacquer paint, buyers could select the colour of their cars from among 500 colour combinations. They were courageous in design, too: the LaSalle model was the first car styled by a designer and not an engineer, and we can thank Cadillac's designers for the sunroof, as well.

The Eldorado was a real monster. Engine output was 210 hp from a 5425 cm<sup>3</sup> engine, its maximum speed was 171 km/hour and its fuel consumption was no less than 20.8 litres. Comfortable travel was ensured by leather upholstered seats, and the dashboard featured a radio, odometer and automatic heating controls. Over 5.5 metres long and 2 meters wide, it weighed 2300 kg, and its tail was the longest ever built on a passenger vehicle. By comparison, the Morgan Plus 4, fashionable in Europe at that time, weighed only 810 kg, was 3.5 meters long and its 2088 cm<sup>3</sup> engine

Cuba could be considered a real-world, open-air museum, since visitors can ogle the many antique automobiles still plying the streets. The underlying reason for this is that until a few years ago only vehicles manufactured before the end of the 50s could be bought and sold. Although this decree has been abolished, saving up for the price of a new car borders on impossible. Tourists, of course, are happy with the free automobile exhibition but they have to pay quite a price for sightseeing in an old-timer, which costs almost HUF 10,000 for an hour.

## Did you know?

- On 20 January 1953, Eisenhower travelled in the inaugural parade in a Cadillac Eldorado Convertible, and Cadillac furnished the presidential vehicle for President Barack Obama, too.
- - The tailfin of a Cadillac is the brainchild of designer Harley Earl; the idea came from the forked tail of the P-38 Lightning aircrafts.



GYÖRGYNÉ PALKOVICS  
ZSUZSA LAJOS

# Vieux HEREND

## TRIUMPHANT MARCH OF THE VH PATTERN



The so-called fish-scale painting that has become popular under the name Vieux Herend (VH) traces its origins to Far East Asia. It was first used on fish and bird figurines by Chinese ceramic and porcelain artists. By now this painting technique has become a characteristic, decorative pattern of Herend, with networks of scales resembling feathers covering almost the entire surface of animal figurines, and only the heads, or in case of birds, tails, wings, beaks and legs are painted with different techniques.

### THE GIFT

This stylised method of decoration was adopted in Herend by Mór Fischer in the 1850s. The first fish-scale painted piece was a porcelain rooster that Fischer



presented as a gift to the famous writer Mór Jókai, whose nom de plume was Kakas Márton (Martin Rooster).

### SPECIAL TECHNIQUES

In the course of this process, porcelain painters use a steel pen to draw scales on the white porcelain body, which are then filled with red, blue, green, yellow, black, platinum, and other colours. Using both realistic and stylised painting styles in combination on a single figure is the current trend: for example animal figurines' heads, tails, feet are painted realistically, whilst their bodies are covered with pen-drawings.

Scales are applied with a drawing pen, and the space inside is filled, often with identical colour, using a brush. Fish-scale figurines are usually multi fired due to difficulties with their handling. VH figurines are labour-intensive, with lots of pen-drawings that require good drawing skills, and shape and space perception. All these are necessary so that the network of scales can be reduced or magnified, adapted, as appropriate, to the given piece in the hands of the artist.

### FAMOUS PIECES

Animal figurines with VH pattern now appear on tableware sets as well (either as two-dimensional patterns, or as handles or knobs), one example is the fish-handle cup designed by the English designers Queensberry and Hunt, however, this pattern has also persisted as a stand-alone decoration. The tea set designed by Pálma Babos is covered with VH-like stylised bird heads with golden beaks, and the tea set designed by sculptor Miklós Melocco is defined by scale-painted underpinings, as well. The unbroken popularity of the VH pattern is also evidenced by the "in-glaze" Polka pattern designed in 2012.



Two continents, 400 train stations, 90 towns, 6 time zones, almost 10 thousand kilometres – running through them all is the world's longest scheduled train service, the Trans-Siberian Express.

Kit is an experience that is a must for adventurers and globetrotters, which always has a few surprises in store. On the journey from Europe to Asia, the range of the Ural Mountains, forests of the Siberian taiga, endless lowlands, steppes, rivers, and lakes pass by outside the windows. The distinctive landscapes and industrial towns of Russia chase each other just like the days and nights throughout this endless journey.

If the traveller buys a ticket to Vladivostok, the final destination of the Trans-Siberian Express, he will be practically train-bound for 7 days. Layover times vary from station to station, with some as short as twenty minutes and some a few hours long. One thing is for sure, when the train departs, it does not wait for any passenger, so you best be on board before then.

A few years ago purchasing tickets was a great challenge for foreign travellers as tickets were available only through complicated channels.

Today one can easily order a ticket via the Internet using widely available and well-functioning ticket sales systems.

Trains are of various classifications, the ones featuring first class (SV) represent the highest standards. First class compartments include 2 beds, a table and in-cabin, private lavatories and showers. There are relatively few such compartments on the train. Second class accommodations are in 4-bed compartments but without private lavatories or showers. In third class there are no private compartments, 54 passengers share a sleeper car that also serves as the passenger car. Without a doubt, this is where the most exiting encounters happen and the most interesting friendships are formed.

The cabin attendants (Provodnik) play an important part in the journey, each one responsible for one train car. They check tickets and documents at boarding, ensure the passengers are as comfortable as the circumstances allow, and address any problems that may arise. Second and third class accommodations are unisex and thus sometimes situations may occur where a passenger requests to be re-seated next to a different neighbour. In the undivided car, the beds are positioned above

one another and consequently the passenger on the upper bunk spends the daytime beside the passenger on the lower bunk, whether they know each other or not.

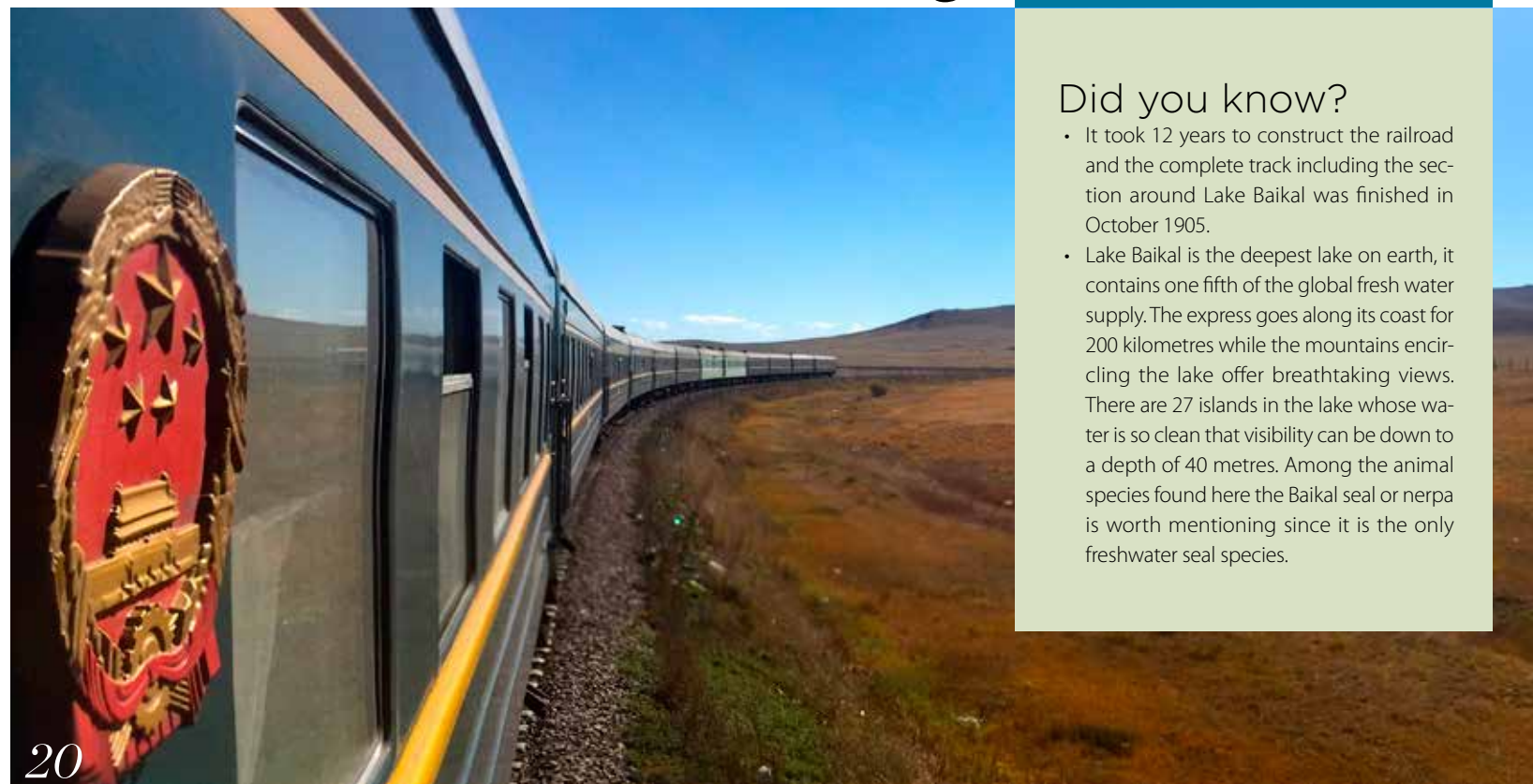
The dining cars serve warm meals or one may have coffee or tea. At the stations there are opportunities to do some shopping at the local merchants.

And how does one pass the time on this seemingly interminable journey? After one has slept in abundance, finished reading through even the next guy's magazines, grew bored with the dining, buffet and bar cars, there are still card games or perhaps a conversation. It is easy to meet people in a car or a compartment where boundaries between people quickly dissolve. Perhaps it is not an exaggeration to say that this journey gives us a glimpse into the Russian soul.



# A GRAND Journey

ÉVA PÁLVÖLGYI



## Did you know?

- It took 12 years to construct the railroad and the complete track including the section around Lake Baikal was finished in October 1905.
- Lake Baikal is the deepest lake on earth, it contains one fifth of the global fresh water supply. The express goes along its coast for 200 kilometres while the mountains encircling the lake offer breathtaking views. There are 27 islands in the lake whose water is so clean that visibility can be down to a depth of 40 metres. Among the animal species found here the Baikal seal or nerpa is worth mentioning since it is the only freshwater seal species.

## APICIUS RESTAURANT RECOMMENDS

# Cured salmon with red caviar,

## DILL OIL AND GREENS WITH BALSAMIC CREAM



### INGREDIENTS TO SERVE FOUR:

- 50 dkg salmon filet
- 8 dkg red caviar
- balsamic vinegar cream, dill oil, leafy greens

### CURING MIX:

- 4 tablespoons coarse sea salt
- 4 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons freshly ground mixed-colour peppercorn
- 2 whole Darjeeling tea leaves
- 4 tablespoons of finely chopped dill
- zest of 1 lemon

### PREPARATION:

Remove any bones from the filet then shape it. Combine the ingredients of the curing mix. Line an appropriately sized baking pan with plastic foil and cover it with part of the curing mix, lay the salmon filet in the pan skin side down, and top with the rest of the curing mix completely covering the filet. Cover tightly with the plastic film and cure for 72 hours in the refrigerator, turning over every 12 hours. When it is ready, rinse in cold water to remove the salty-sweet mix, pat it dry it and cut into thin slices. Serve with caviar, leafy greens, dill oil, balsamic vinegar cream and toast.



APICIUS RESTAURANT AND CAFÉ  
8440 Herend, Kossuth u. 137.  
phone: + 36 (88) 523 235  
E-mail: porcelanium@herend.com  
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HEREND NIŞANTAŞI  
Abdi İpekçi caddesi  
Prof. Dr. Feyzi Feyzioglu Sok.  
Altın Apt. No: 1/A  
Nişantaşı / İSTANBUL  
+90 212 233 05 28

DOM FARFORA  
Leninsky Prospect 36  
119344 Moscow  
+7 495 995 60 23

ROSENTHAL-CRISTOFLE-  
HEREND  
28 May str. 3  
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SOGO DEPARTMENT STORE  
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