Juan and Paloma Garrido. Biography

Juan and Paloma Garrido were born in Madrid on the 14th of June, 1965 and the 28th of July 1968 respectively.

In 1982, they finished their high school studies. While they were finishing their superior studies, under the supervision of their father, they began to experiment and work in the family workshop.

In 1989, Juan graduated from the Superior School of Marketing and later, in Business Administration, studies which he interlaced with the History of Silversmiths course from the School of Art and Antiques of Madrid. In her turn Paloma graduated in Business Administration and Economic Management. In 2001, both siblings participated in a Spanish Silversmith course which they also completed in Madrid. This academic treasure chest of knowledge made them aware of the evolution of styles within the history of silversmiths, a knowledge which they applied to the area of restoration of antique pieces and the designing of new creations.

After years of specialized training and of knowing first hand the different techniques of working in silver, Juan and Paloma Garrido started their professional paths and extended their knowledge not only in the area of antique restoration but also in the creation of new designs.

Since their infancy they have felt an instinctive attraction to silver. It was their father, the Master Damián Garrido (1931-2002), who transmitted the vocation and love of the art, continuing the most ancient of the silversmith workshop traditions. He taught them to appreciate the meticulous and demanding nature of fine silver-making. They on their part have achieved the preservation of this unusual form of art, for which they have received numerous design prizes. Nowadays, they maintain alive the legend of their father in producing with distain, their own creations, inspired in architectonic references and geometric elements.

Following the footsteps of their father, Juan and Paloma are the second generation of silversmiths in the Garrido family. With the collaboration of the skillful members of their workshop, they have given a fresh touch to this prestigious firm which is now known worldwide. Although they continue to reproduce the masterpieces of their father, they focus on creating their own works, respecting the processes which their father used and the importance that he gave to time, to permit them to create extraordinary pieces.

One of the first, fruits of their apprenticeship in the silversmith, still under the surveillance of their father, was their participation in 1994 in the Spanish section of the international exhibition organized by the European Academy of Science and Art. Their submission, titled Damián Garrido, achieved an outstanding classification and presented the first designs in silver of Juan and Paloma. This is how an era began and the launching of their new designs into the exterior
market, those which were endorsed with the inclusion of their designs in diverse collective expositions organized by public and private institutions in countries such as the United Kingdom, Morocco, the United States and Japan.

This era reached a climax in 1997 when the Official Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Madrid gave them an honorary mention in exportation, in recognition of their efficiency international relations. This same year, they made their debut in the National Museum of Decorative Arts of Madrid with an itinerary exposition which toured various museums, within these the National Museum of Contemporary Engraving in Marbella, which resulted of the acquisition of their pieces by both museums.

Since they took part in the second dedicated exposition in the National Museum of Decorative Arts of Madrid to Juan and Paloma in 2003, their latest creative era is resulting to be the most enriched for contemporary decorative art as much in the aesthetic environment as in the technical one.

In their most recent works, they reflect all of that which they have learnt in silver design, including its particular mode of understanding of silversmithing, combining traditional and modern tendencies. The majority of their pieces present a combination of lines, curved and straight, a characteristic which affects as much the surface of the pieces as their interior and edges. The apparent regularity of precise geometry is reinvented and is aggrandized with asymmetry that supports a multiplicity of perspectives. It’s for this reason that in the works of these artists, not only one viewpoint is beneficial to appreciate and express the real idea of the richness of forms which each piece contains.

Juan and Paloma have left behind, the search for utility in their designs, a principle that brought complicity to the creative process, in order to follow a new direction of fewer aesthetic, conceptual and formal restrictions. This allows them to confront new aspects in the exploration of a purer form of sculpture. In conceptual terms, they look for the balance of shapes. Size has also stopped being an obstacle; they now investigate space and proportion with a greater liberty, although, they continue applying traditional silversmith techniques. In respect to this, they have adapted this tradition to new projects which they have embarked on, taking a new step into the evolution of applied arts: the sculpture-furniture and other decorative elements. This new idea has allowed them to create works that combine utility with eternal beauty of basic geometric forms. Some of them are made up of two pieces interlaced and when separated convert into independent pieces.

The current course, which their work follows, was developed when they discovered that many of their practical designs contained an autonomous aesthetic entity like sculpture and they realized that minuteness was not a disadvantage in their designing and fabrication process. In the line which they are currently following, contrary to what is thought, it is precisely the artesian tradition that they usually focus on and demonstrated, in comparison to the majority of designers, who usually apply more industrial processes in the
creation of their work. Juan and Paloma, on the other hand, conserve the manual methods which they apply to their silver objects, which achieves a more exquisite finish.

Teaching is one of the fields where Paloma and Juan stand out. In 1996 they commenced their training of specialists in traditional Silversmithing techniques. Since 2002, this has offered them the possibility, which they still continue developing, of participating in the training programme in the specialization of artistic jewellery and Silversmithing at the School of Art and Design of Madrid.

Their pieces have been included in individual and collective exhibitions in art galleries, with great prestige and internationally celebrated, inside and outside of Spanish borders like Asprey (London), Christofle (Paris), Herve van de Straeten (Paris), Chahan Minassian (Paris) Alexandre Biaggi (Paris), Puiforcat (Paris) and have collaborated with well known designers and architects. Furthermore, apart from working with galleries, Juan and Paloma have designed and created collections for luxury firms of great international prestige, such as Asprey of London, and have collaborated with well known designers and architects. Also they have worked for institutions like the Spanish royal palace and the government presidency.

Their work has been well received in countries such as the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Germany, France, Belgium, Holland and Switzerland.

Some of their creations have been acquired by public institutions, such as the National Museum of Decorative Arts of Madrid, the National Museum of Contemporary Engraving of Marbella, and the Museum of Arts and Design (New York); others enrich some of the most highly valued private collections, and the rest are divided between distinguished art galleries around the world.
Juan and Paloma Garrido

Spanish, b. 1965; b.1968

Education

Juan Garrido

B.A. Business Administration (ESEM Madrid)
Grad. Dip. Management and Administration (ICADE Madrid)
Tech Dip. Business (COE Madrid)
Dip. History of Silversmithing
(The Official School of Art and Antiques Madrid)
Dip. Traditional Spanish Silversmithing
(Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Madrid)
The Community of Madrid Craftsman’s Guild of Silversmiths.

Paloma Garrido

B.A. Business Management and Economic Studies (ICADE Madrid)
Tech Dip. Business (COE Madrid)
Dip. Traditional Spanish Silversmithing (Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Madrid)
The Community of Madrid Craftsman’s Guild of Silversmiths.

Prizes

Excellency Award from the European Academy of Arts (1994)
Official Honor from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Madrid (1997)
Entrepreneur Diploma (1997 Arganda City Council / ASEARCO Entrepreneurial Association.)
Awarded Official Trainers of Artesian Silversmithing since 2002

Selected Exhibitions

2016  Geometries. Juan and Paloma Garrido for Alfons & Damián, Barcelona, Spain
2012  Juan and Paloma Garrido for Alexandre Biaggi Gallery, Paris, France
2011  Heavy Metal Exhibition: Barry Friedman Ltd. New York. USA
2009  Juan and Paloma Garrido: New Furniture Collection, Garrido Gallery, Madrid, Spain
2008  Juan and Paloma Garrido, Miguel E.Young Gallery, Ibiza, Spain
       Juan and Paloma Garrido, Asprey, London
       Juan and Paloma Garrido. Esculturas en Plata, López de Aragón Gallery, Madrid, Spain
Garrido. Nova Colección. Ourives do século XXI, Sargadelos
Gallery, A Coruña, Spain

2007  Juan and Paloma Garrido, Asprey, London,
2006  Juan and Paloma Garrido: New Works in Silver, Barry Friedman Ltd.,
          New York, NY
Juan and Paloma Garrido, Gallery A.B. Levy Gallery, Palm Beach,
Florida
Juan and Paloma Garrido, Galeria Hartmann, Barcelona, Spain

2004  Damián Garrido: Orfebres del siglo XX. Galería Sargadelos, Santiago de
          Compostela, Spain
2003  Damián Garrido. Orfebres del siglo XX, Museo Nacional de Artes
          Decorativas, Madrid, Spain
2002  Damián Garrido: A Silversmith of the 20th Century, Barry Friedman Ltd.,
          New York, NY
1998  Damián Garrido Un orfebre del siglo XX. Caja Castilla-La Mancha,
          Albacete, Spain; Caja Castilla-La Mancha, Toledo, Spain; Caja Castilla-La
          Mancha, Cuenca, Spain
1997  Damián Garrido Un orfebre del siglo XX. Museo Nacional de Artes
          Decorativas, Madrid, Spain; Museo del Grabado Español Contemporáneo,
          Marbella, Spain
1994  Damián Garrido, Spanish Section, Academia Europea de las Artes,
          Madrid, Spain
Damián Garrido. Arte en plata, Galeria della Rovere, Madrid, Spain
1993  Joyeros de Madrid, Palacio de Gaviria, Madrid, Spain
1992  Damián Garrido, Hotel Sonesta, Key Biscayne, Miami, FL
1991  Damián Garrido, Hotel Keio Plaza Intercontinental, Tokyo, Japan
International Exhibition of Spanish Artisan Products, Casablanca,
Morocco
1990  Damián Garrido, Maestro Artesano, Mercado Puerta de Toledo, Madrid,
          Spain.

Group Exhibitions

2016  Pavillon des Arts et du Design, Paris, France
Collective Design Fair, New York, USA
Pavilion of Art & Design, London, UK
2015  Pavillon des Arts et du Design, Paris, France
Collective Design Fair, New York, USA
Pavilion of Art & Design, London, UK
2014  Pavillon des Arts et du Design, Paris, France
Pavilion of Art & Design, London, UK
2013  Pavillon des Arts et du Design, Paris, France
Pavilion of Art & Design, London, UK
2012  Pavillon des Arts et du Design, Paris, France
American International Fine Art Fair, Palm Beach Florida
2011  Pavillon des Arts et du Design, Paris, France
American International Fine Art Fair, Palm Beach, Florida
Pavillon des Arts et du Design, Paris, France
Design Art Basel, Miami, Florida

2009
The International Contemporary Art and Design Fair, Palm Beach
Pavilion of Art & Design, London, UK

2008
The International Contemporary Art and Design Fair, Palm Beach
The Original Miami Beach Antique Show, Miami
Pavillon des Antiquaries et des Beaux–Arts, Paris, France
Euroantica, Brussels
International Art and Design Fair (Armory), New York
S.O.F.A., The international Exhibition of Sculptures, Objects and Functional Arts, Chicago
Kunst-Messe, Munich
pAn Art & Antiques, Amsterdam
Pavilion of Art & Design, London, UK
Design Art Basel, Miami, Florida

2007
The Original Miami Beach Antique Show, Miami
The International Contemporary Art and Design Fair, Palm Beach
Euroantica, Brussels
ArtFair den Boschs’ Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands
Westdeutsche Kuntsmesse, Cologne
Kunst & Antiquitäten Tage im Museum Zons, Zons
Kunst-Messe, Munich,
PAn Art & Antiques, Amsterdam

2006
The International Contemporary Art and Design Fair, Palm Beach
Euroantica, Brussels
Kunst & Antiquitäten Tage im Museum Zons, Zons
The International Contemporary Modernism Armory, Park Avenue, New York
The Original Miami Beach Antique Show, Miami
Euroantica, Brussels
Kunst-Messe, Munich
PAn Art & Antiques, Amsterdam

2005
The International Contemporary Art and Design Fair, Palm Beach
The Original Miami Beach Antique Show, Miami
The International Palm Beach Jewelry & Antique Show, Palm Beach
Saló Internacional d’Antiquaris, Barcelona
Spring Olympia, Fine Art, Design & Antiques, London
Westdeutsche Kuntsmesse, Cologne
Euroantica, Brussels
ArtFair den Bosch, s’ Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands
Kunst-Messe, Munich
Pavillon des Antiquaries et des Beaux–Arts, Paris
Kunst & Antiquitäten Tage im Museum Zons, Zons
Summer Olympia, Fine Art Design & Antiques, London
Salón internacional de Anticuarios FERIARTE, Madrid
PAAn Art & Antiques, Amsterdam

2004
The Original Miami Beach Antique Show, Miami
The International Contemporary Art and Design Fair, Palm Beach
Pavillon des Antiquaries et des Beaux-Arts, Paris
Salon des Antiquaires, Lausanne
Kunst-und Antiquitätenmesse, Zurich
Kunst-und Antiquitätenmesse in der Residenz, Salzburg
Kunst & Antiquitäten Tage im Museum Zons, Zons
Kunst-Messe, Munich
Euroantica, Brussels
Westdeutsche Kunstmessen, Cologne

2003
The Original Miami Beach Antique Show, Miami
The International Contemporary Art and Design Fair, Palm Beach
The International Contemporary Modernism Armory, Park Avenue, New York
Cultura Basel, Switzerland
The XXe Siècle Fair, Carrousel du Louvre, Paris

2002
The Original Miami Beach Antique Show, Miami

2001
The Original Miami Beach Antique Show, Miami

1994
Damián Garrido, Sección Española, Academia Europea de las Artes, Madrid

Collaborations

2013
“Magnificat Puiforcat” Juan and Paloma Garrido for Puiforcat

2011
Juan and Paloma Garrido for Biaggi Collection
Christofle: Garrido craftsmanship
Juan and Paloma Garrido for Chahan Minassian

2010
Herve van der Strataen: Garrido craftsmanship

2008
Garrido for Asprey Collection

2007
Garrido for Asprey Collection

Private and Public Collections

Alfredo Briganty, Private Collector, Madrid
Ian Rosen, Private Collector, London
Sir Elton John, Private Residence, London
Madrid Excelente Foundation, Madrid
Museum of Art and Design, New York, NY
National Contemporary Engraving Museum (Marbella) Málaga
National Museum of Decorative Arts of Madrid
Paideia Foundation, A Coruña
Ralph Lauren, New York Studio

Government and Royal Collections

Pope Benedict XVI, Vatican City
Prince Philip of Asturias and Princess Leticia of Asturias
Infanta Elena of Bourbon
Zarzuela Spanish Royal Palace
Emir of Qatar
King of Jordan
The State Council of Spain, Madrid
Spanish Embassy in Harare, Zimbabwe
Spanish Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela
Spanish Embassy in Riga, Lithuania
Spanish Embassy in Muscat, Oman
Spanish Embassy in Ljubljana, Slovenia
Spanish Embassy in Bucharest, Romania
Spanish Embassy in Kiev, Ukraine
Spanish Government Presidency Office

Bibliography

Damian Garrido: Un orfebre del siglo XX / A Silversmith of the 20th Century;
GARRIDO Juan and MACEIRA Patricia. ISBN: 84-607-5831-1. 2002

Garrido Orfebres (1994-2005);