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LEONID RATH LOBMEYER ON AUSTRIAN DESIGN



Leonid Rath recently inherited the famous Austrian glass and crystal manufacturing business Lobmeyr in Vienna. His grandfather Hans Harald Rath designed the splendid Starburst chandeliers at the Metropolitan Opera. Over coffee and ginger ale, Leonid Rath speaks about his fascination with the material of glass:

"The great thing about glass is, it's a very quick [process]. You have to catch the moment of time when it takes shape. When you watch a glassblower, it's like a dance. Every timing and movement has to be perfect. It's like watching a piano player. Nothing comes consciously, it's all subconscious. You don't think about the shape and what's coming out. There is coincidence [involved] and a huge potential for errors and mistakes. If we do a production with crystal we have to sort out over 50 percent."

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Hollmann Beletage | Vienna

Hollmann Beletage, located in the heart of historic Vienna, is a boutique hotel with designer furniture, a small library, open fireplace and piano, living-room suites, and a relaxing (albeit small) spa. The stylish little hotel with a friendly staff is like a home away from home.

www.hollmann-beletage.at



WIEN PRODUCTS Collection 2008

In 1995, the Vienna Chamber of Commerce established the umbrella brand WIEN PRODUCTS. Today its membership consists of fifty firms that are committed to executing creative new designs with traditional workmanship.

The successful cooperation of these firms carries on with the WIEN PRODUCTS Collection. "Our goal is to support WIEN PRODUCTS in building a first-rate line of designer products and to continue their development over the next years," said Chamber of Commerce president Brigitte Jank.

The WIEN PRODUCTS Collection 2008 includes wares from the porcelain manufacturer Augarten, Backhausen interior textiles, J. & L. Lobmeyr, Skrein – The Jewelry Workshop, Halder, A.E. Koechert, Lichterloh, Muehlbauer, and the Wiener Silberschmiede Werkstätte.

The Chamber of Commerce provides export assistance to the fifty WIEN PRODUCTS firms because of their highest quality standards, excellent service, and expression of Vienna's distinct flair and aesthetic.

www.wienproducts.at