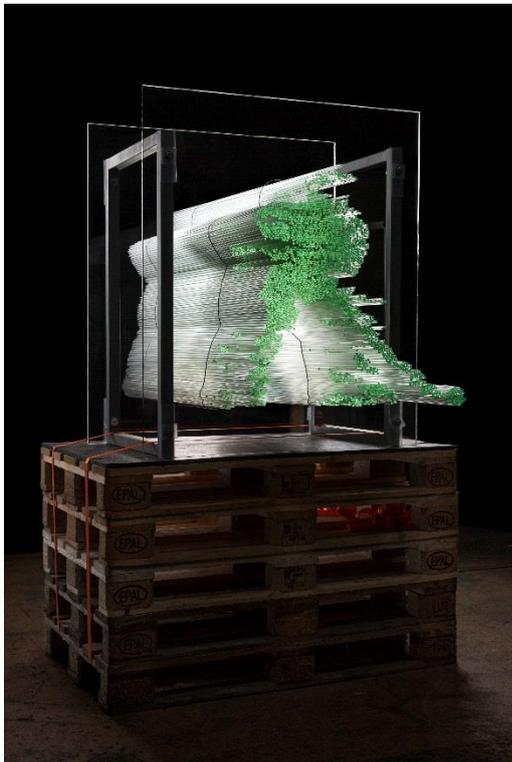


LASVIT

GLASS, PATRIOTISM, AND SPORT. STATUES OF THE SPORTSMEN WILL BEAUTIFY THE CZECH HOUSE IN PYEONGCHANG

February 2018

PRAGUE – Glass hockey-player, snowboarder, and speed skater will greet the visitors of the Czech House at the Winter Olympics in PyeongChang. The sound of hockey stick sliding on the ice, the wind howling around the ears of speed skater or seconds of silence when skateboarder flies above the ramp, crowds chanting and for a few moments they share admiration to the beauty of the sport and motion – all of that inspired Maxim Velčovský to create statues called „*The Sportsmen*“. Eye-catching glass sculptures are paying tribute to Czech sport stars who are accomplishing one success after another in their fields.



Delicate glass statues are situated in the center of two-meter-tall stainless-steel rectangle. Design of sculptures is inspired by movement, its lightness, and elegance. *“I was trying to capture the peak moments of sport performances and preserve it in it’s short, fleeting beauty,”* described designer Maxim Velčovský, LASVITs very own art director. During the creation process of the Sportsmen Velčovský had in mind all sports events he attended.

*“Sometimes I’m absorbed by the atmosphere of the match, sportsmen’s energy and the excitement within the audience so much that I forget to watch the action itself; then I have to watch a recorded broadcast the other day to find out what really happened. This broadcast will one day become the only evidence of these remarkable performances of mankind for next generations. Series of documented unique moments caught from different views and angles. And these moments are exactly what *The Sportsmen* are about,”* explained the designer.

The composition of the Sportsmen is made from technical glass usually used for chemical glassware or cooking glass. Slightly green glass tubes are put together in the shape of each sportsman. The final pieces are based on the contrast between the static silhouette and blurred shape of the sportsman’s body in motion.

Visitors can admire the Sportsmen in the Czech House from 9th to 25th of February. The Czech house will be open for public every day from 11 am to midnight. The Sportsmen are unique one of a kind piece and the statues will be for sale after the Olympics.

Trophies kissed by frost

The Sportsmen are not the only Lasvit's footmark in PyeongChang. Every Czech medalist will receive unique glass trophy designed by Monika Kořínková. Frozen-look trophy called „Spirit“ is inspired by the winter beauty of nature, ice, and snow. „*The trophy symbolizes persistence, diligence, and purity. It represents unceasing energy and spirit,*“ described Kořínková. The art piece is 30 centimeters long and made of hand blown glass.

Lasvit has a rich experience with the production of unique trophies, sculptures, and awards. Czech medalists from the Olympic Games in Sochi and Rio de Janeiro received a trophy made by Lasvit. Second mentioned were designed by a Czech Olympic multiple-medalist in biathlon Gabriela Koukalová.

In the past years, the company produced several trophies for the worlds famous bicycle race, Tour de France as well as glass sculptures for the Czech Lion film awards. Tennis stars such as Rafael Nadal and Andy Murray received Lasvit trophies as winners of the prestigious Mubadala World Tennis Championship in Abu Dhabi.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About LASVIT

The brand LASVIT, founded in 2007 by Leon Jakimič, sheds a new light on Bohemian glass and takes it into the next millennium. LASVIT combines the authenticity of glass with innovative technologies and creative craftsmanship. In a few short years, LASVIT has established itself as the authority delivering bespoke lighting sculptures and art installations made from hand-blown glass. Collaborations with renowned designers and artists gave life to unique glass collections. Nendo, Campana Brothers, Ross Lovegrove, Daniel Libeskind, Maarten Baas, Czech legends René Roubíček and Bořek Šípek are among those who choose Lasvit to embody their unconventional artistic vision, endowing it with the precision and mastery of our glassmakers, and produce impressive creative oeuvre. This is a manifesto of LASVIT's uncompromising mission: to transform glass into breathtaking light and design experiences.

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