

LASVIT

CZECH GLASS BY LASVIT WILL BE HELD HIGH BY THE WINNERS OF THE TOUR DE FRANCE

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PRAGUE – “On the wings of freedom” –with such words could one describe the trophy made by LASVIT which will be raised in a gesture of victory by the winners of the most prestigious bicycle race in the world – the Tour de France. **The glass and design company has, already for the seventh time, become the proud producer of the crystal trophy which, since 2011, has been designed by designer Peter Olah from the ŠKODA AUTO company – a long-term official partner of the eponymous race.**



The unique glass trophy has an iconic, streamlined form, and its shape for each year has always differed in its cut – each one is specifically designed for the given race. The trophy designed by Peter Olah for the 105th Tour de France was inspired by traditional attributes of top-notch riders – freedom, flight, and speed. The cut

mimics the wings of birds which fly freely above the heads of the racers who are locked in a dire struggle with time. *“It is a very demanding decor. The cutter must take away a large amount of glass in precisely determined cuts. Much like expanding wings, the decor on the trophy broadens towards the top,”* describes Peter Olah.

The trophy which each of the four winning riders will receive is made from one piece of hand-blown and hand-cut crystal glass, each of them weighing almost four kilograms and standing over sixty centimeters tall. Although this is the seventh time that LASVIT has worked on the trophies in tandem with Peter Olah, the decor has never repeated itself, and they remain distinct for each annual race. The cut of last year’s trophy, for example, was inspired by one of the most frequently used cuts in the history of Czech crystal, but reinterpreted in a modern

style. The company LASVIT used the same type of cut in their designer components for the conceptual car ŠKODA VISION. All components are hand-cut and boast an extremely difficult production process – the master cutter needs up to three weeks to completely finish some of the finer components.

“The Czech glass working industry and the world of sports have much in common. Much like cyclists must overcome demanding mountain passages, the Czech glass industry has also had to traverse some difficult periods. It is an honor for us that a trophy from Czechia will play a central role in a sports event as important as the Tour de France, and that athletes and glassworkers can inspire the world together.” says Leon Jakimič , the founder of LASVIT.

The design company LASVIT has made its name with its unique glass installations and lighting collections, exporting them across the whole world. It also has much experience with the world of sports awards and trophies, as trophies made by LASVIT have not only appeared in the hands of the winners of the



most famous bicycle race in the world – the Tour de France – but also the winners of the Mubadala World Tennis Championship, a yearly event which takes place in Abú Zabí. Also, all the Czech winners of the last Olympic Games in Pyeonchang received, apart from their medals, a glass trophy made by LASVIT. And at the last summer Olympic Games in Brazil’s Rio de Janeiro, the Olympic athletes received an original award designed by the former Czech biathlete, Gabriela Koukalová.

ABOUT LASVIT

LASVIT is a creative hub of glassmaking talents, fresh ideas, and daring designs. This young, progressive Czech glassmaking and design company inspires the world with its breathtaking custom-made installations exhibited all over the world, as well as with its unique lighting and glassware collections made from hand-blown glass. The founder of LASVIT, Leon Jakimič,

steers the company with the utmost respect for the Czech glassmaking tradition, but also with a boundless optimism for modern technologies and cutting-edge design.

In past years, LASVIT has attracted many renowned designers and artists who wanted to collaborate with an unconventional Czech company. In cooperation with LASVIT, many stars such as the Campana Brothers, Kengo Kuma, Yabu Pushelberg, Nendo or Ross Lovegrove, have created some of their most unforgettable glass collections. Ever since 2007, LASVIT has been on a mission: to bring beauty, happiness, and a piece of the Bohemian soul to clients worldwide, and thus change the world for the better. Let LASVIT in, let the changes begin.

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