

## MAISON DUPIN, GENEVA



Since 1820 the company has been a factor in the history of the Swiss city of Geneva. Not only can Geneva boast the very best of the watch-making industry, but it is also home to Maison Dupin, a home decoration store that operates in the upper segments of interior design. It is a family company in which traditional craftsmanship is combined with a contemporary design perspective. The common denominator is quality - from the overall picture to the smallest detail. Today Maison Dupin is under the inspirational leadership of the Luthy brothers, Pascal and Stéphane, who have followed in their father's footsteps, and have put the interiors business firmly on the map. Their portfolio is as varied as it is impressive: a blueprint for high-end creativity.



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The brothers Pascal and Stéphane Luthy are real luxury explorers. What, for them, is luxury?

"For us real luxury is absolute personalization of a project and its development. The possibility to provide an entirely bespoke creation.

When we think about luxury, we think of the execution of unique pieces, custom-made, possessing supreme comfort and elegance, with attention to beauty and the client's well-being. All this comes from what is, in fact, the real essence of luxury: it invites you to dream, heightens the senses, brings serenity. And this is what we believe in, at Maison Dupin. When we work on a project we take care of everything, from the flooring to the trimmings.

Luxury relates to the whole house, from A to Z; it entails addressing creativity that customizes everything to the last detail, delivering a turnkey home, complete with bedding, accessories, tableware, etc..

Luxury is the common thread that links everything."



Far left: Stéphane and Pascal Luthy who are succeeding in the 21st century in lending fresh lustre to the family business, Maison Dupin, which was founded in Geneva in 1820. The premise is and always will be to produce bespoke, top-quality products.

Left: the villa 'Atmosphère' near the lake of Geneva, which Maison Dupin transformed into a home, a place where the family can spend time with friends, work and enjoy their leisurely pursuits. The interior design was partly determined by the varying levels of the location, which have effectively resulted in three staggered volumes.

Overleaf

One of the living areas in the house where the use of wood is a striking feature.

This is a speciality of Pascal Luthy who has assembled a unique collection of wood and veneers.







Maison Dupin is a highly-respected company that opened its doors in Geneva back in 1820. Since then it has continued to be family-run. Auguste Dupin was the one who, early in the 19th century, started a studio in Rue du Rhône; it specialised in the production of picture frames and mirrors. In 1895 Dupin expanded the activities to producing furniture. In 1944 the Dupin Ladies sold the family concern to Albert Luthy, who merged it with his own Comptoir des Papiers Peints wallpaper store.

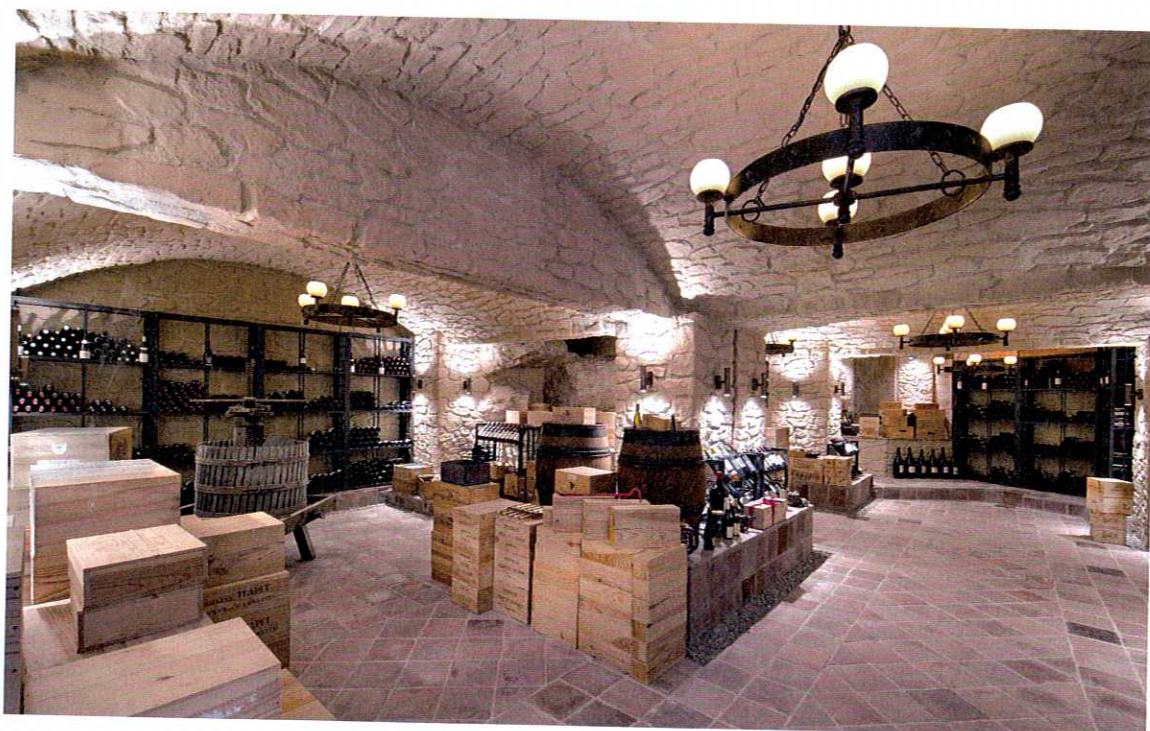
Business flourished under leadership of his son Bernard to cover a variety of disciplines: interior design, decoration, architecture, cabinet-making, restoration of antique furniture, upholstery and trimmings. A kitchens department was added in 1996.

artisanal tradition. They work with a team of specialists on prime projects world wide: from Switzerland to the Middle East and from the United States to Asia. They not only furnish private residences but also embassies and banks, as well as addressing the interior design for major brands in the watch-making industry.

Stéphane and Pascal were brought up in the business. Pascal focuses on the woodwork and sculpture side. He trained in Switzerland as a cabinet- and furniture-maker and continued his studies in the United States, at Boston University and the Swain School of Design in Massachusetts. There he learned the finer points of the profession. He completed his architecture studies at the New York

Right: the large wine cellar with tasting room under the house.

Below: a lighting object from the Pascal Luthy collection with his famous 'light-emitting' wood. Below that: some of the company's production facilities in Geneva. For its projects, Maison Dupin makes most of the furniture, curtains, cupboards and other interior objects itself, with its highly qualified craftsmen. Here, the Luthy brothers in the production department. In the yellow ensemble, Chiara Del Vecchio of the Milanese public relations agency, Conseil. Right-hand page: the large cigar room, which is fully climate controlled; the floor is made of glass – it means the large rock under the house is visible.



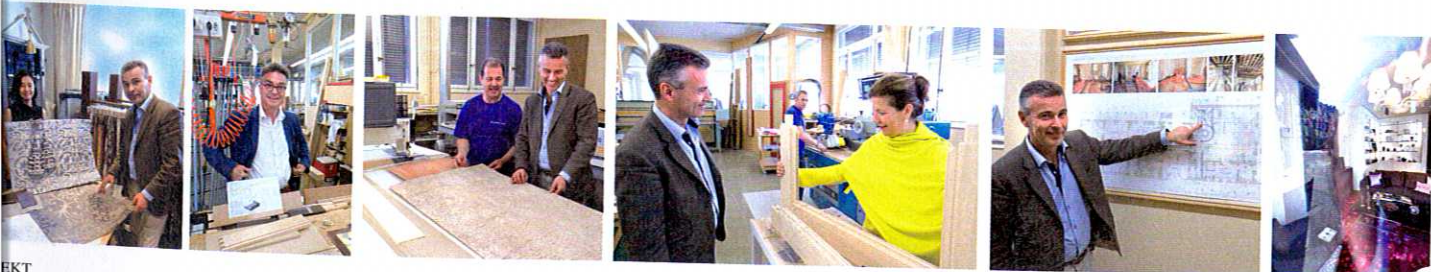
At Maison Dupin it's all about traditional craftsmanship and, accordingly, the company has accumulated a wealth of know-how and skills over the years. It continues to be in a position to supply the highest possible quality – tailor-made, artisanal precision work. Luxury is a prime objective: from the overall product to the smallest detail. This work ethic is still found solely in the top segment of the interiors world, linking as it does superhuman effort with optimum sophistication.

Over the years the company has garnered many prestigious awards, including the Elite Européene Mercure d'Oro Award in 1978 and the Geneva 'Industrie et Artisanat' Prize in 1991. That was quite an achievement, since Maison Dupin's close neighbours are leading watch manufacturers.

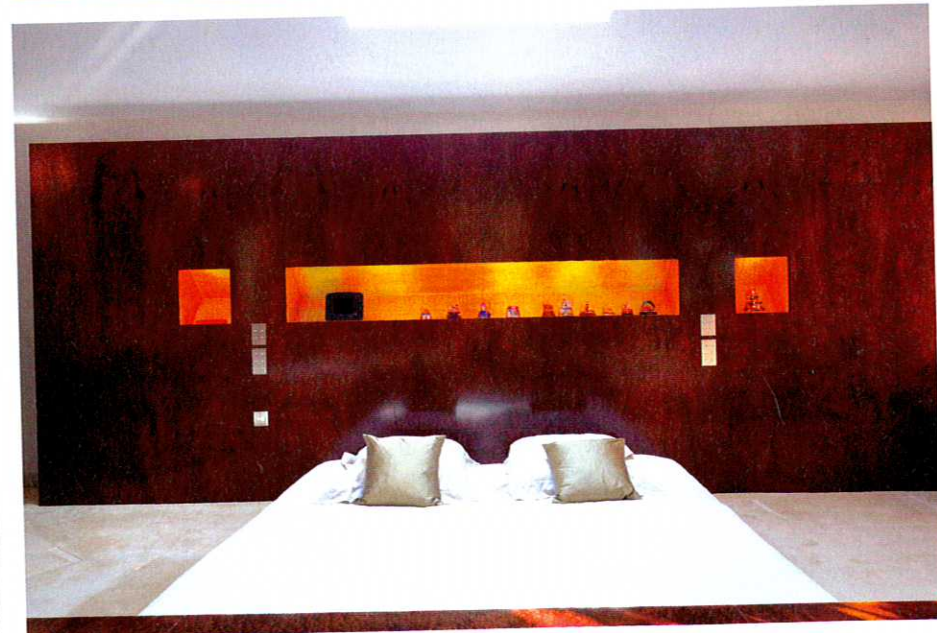
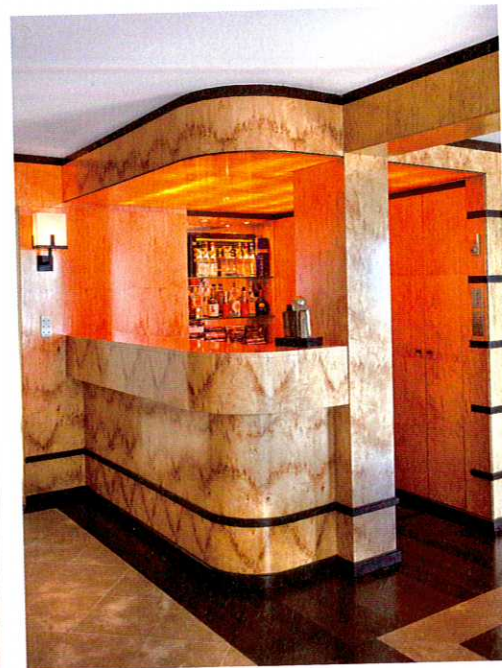
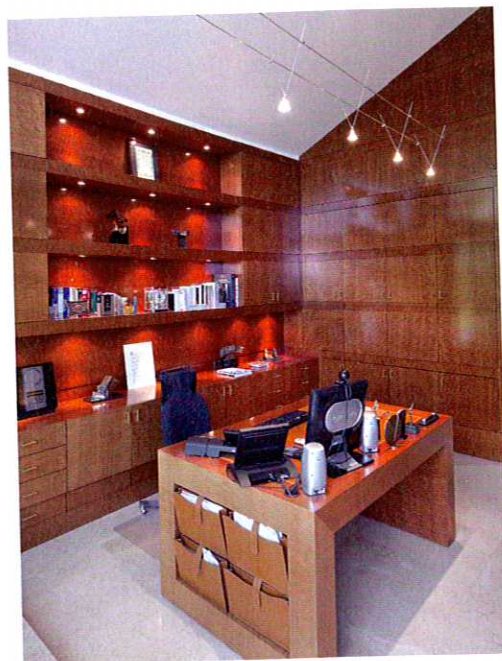
Bernard's sons, Stéphane and Pascal, have upheld the company's

School of Interior Design. He was making distinctive pieces of furniture which were exhibited in various museums. On his return to Switzerland he started work in the family business and also developed the technique of 'light-emitting' wood. It was to become an important mainstay of the furniture collection that he has created under his own name within the family business. His fascination with wood is soon apparent when he shows off his treasure trove of veneers. The most delicate varieties of wood, with all manner of structures, sparkle as if they have been sprayed with water.

His brother Stéphane trained as an architect and when he completed his studies in Geneva he too left for the United States, where he specialised further at leading architectural practices in Los Angeles and New York. At Maison Dupin he is chiefly responsible for the architecture department.







Maison Dupin not only uses its own products. It also has trend-setting suppliers for specific applications. For wallcoverings they work with Elitis, Cole & Son, Maya Romanoff and Omexco. The fabrics they deploy include Dedar, Rubelli, Jim Thompson, Sahco Hesslein, Loro Piana, Zimmer & Rohde, and for carpets Louis de Poortere, Braquenié, Flipo and Limited Edition. For outdoor furniture they favour Kettal, Sifas, Triconfort, Fendi Outdoor and Dedon. Dornbacht, Czech & Speake, Delépine and Bisazza partner them in the bathrooms, and for kitchens Poggenpohl, Porsche design, Pronorm, Miele and Sub Zero. Cupboards, furniture and tables are sourced from Giorgetti, Fendi, Lalique Maison, Chelini, Mobileffe and Presotto, lighting and crystal from Brand van Egmond, Swarovski, Baccarat, Vaughan, Barovier & Toso and Porta Romana. Some of these items can be seen in either of Maison Dupin's two stores in Geneva.

One of Maison Dupin's recent turn-key projects is the villa 'Atmosphère', where the varying levels of the terrain were an important guideline for the new architecture. In fact, it comprises three

houses that were fused to make one large ensemble. One of the clients' main requirements was to have a complex that was both a family home and a place where they could spend time with friends, where they could work and have sufficient space for leisure pursuits. It entailed a major make-over of existing spaces and the addition of new extensions. The brief was 'to transform the ordinary into something extraordinary'.

The hub of the house is the large living room with vast expanses of glass affording uninterrupted views of the surrounding countryside. The complex has eight bedrooms each with its own bathroom and walk-in closet, a splendid office, a large wine cellar, as well as a special cigar room. The latter is not only appropriately climate controlled but has a glass floor through which the rocky ground is visible beneath. A large indoor pool has been built with an Oriental feel; it is along the same lines as the large outdoor pool. Despite the large number of very different rooms on different levels, the designers at Maison Dupin have succeeded in giving the ensemble an ambience of tranquillity and luxury, the common thread being the exquisite use of different types of wood in the interiors.

**These pages: the interior of the villa 'Atmosphère' at Lake Geneva, which Maison Dupin has transformed into an oasis of luxury and comfort. They have applied those two elements throughout, from the overall product to the smallest detail, paying particular attention to the use of exquisite varieties of wood.**

**Overleaf**  
The indoor swimming pool with Mediterranean characteristics - in line with the outdoor pool.



