

OFFICINA ALESSI

“Alessi Circus” design Marcel Wanders, 2016

“The Jester” (Gilberto)

Obsessed with opening bottles, wine-drunk joker, Gilberto, expresses himself not only with words but with sounds in general. Always laughing, shouting, jumping, maniacally gesturing, Gilberto does anything to get in the spotlight. Constantly corking up bottles with his spinning dance moves, more than once Gilberto has accidentally screwed himself stuck into different random objects. He has never been stuck for very long though, as there are always people around to unscrew him - and the party continues!

Marcel Wanders



“The Jester” is a Corkscrew but also a piebald costumed saltimbanco. He first appears crouched on the kind of pedestal circus artists use to perform their acts, always ready to leap up or to perform a pirouette. Marcel Wanders has cleverly masked the functional aspects of the Corkscrew within the elements that it is comprised of. The pedestal hides the screw and keeps it in place on the neck of the bottle, while the pointed cap offers a useful handle, making it that much easier to uncork bottles.

Made in Italy in the Crusinallo di Omegna workshop, “The Jester” is composed of 40 18/10 stainless steel parts produced using three separate manufacturing processes. The ‘cera persa’ (lost-wax) casting method is used for the more elaborate elements of the design, where minute details need to be reproduced, a numerically controlled machine is used to create the intricate details which, in order to be consistent and symmetrical, need to be accurate down to the last millimetre, finally, the more complex shapes are created using plane laser cutting.

Decorated by hand and produced and limited to only 999 numbered pieces with nine artist’s proofs, he is, alongside his companion pieces, “The Strongman”, “The Ballerina”, “The Ringleader” and “The Candyman”, an artist that is bound to get people talking.

Corkscrew in 18/10 stainless steel.
Limited edition of 999 numbered copies and 9 artist's proofs.
cm 16,2 x 6 – h cm 19,3



“The Strongman” (Marcello)

Growing up stomping grapes in his parents' vineyard, Marcello soon discovered his love for demolition. As his muscles grew bigger, female attention grew more intense and Marcello's confidence also grew. Going from stomping grapes to squeezing olives to hardcore nutcracking, Marcello's shaped oily body is the dream of many women. They should beware, Marcello is not only good at breaking nuts but also hearts.

Marcel Wanders



“The Strongman” is a muscleman who steals hearts and enjoys living up to his name as the one and only - Mr Nutcracker! Showing off his strength with gilded and oh so very heavy dumbbells - Ladies and Gentlemen! – prepare to witness something never seen before in public! His face contorted with the effort, his muscles tensed, feet solid on the pedestal, he is there to show what he's got. And using “Strongman” is child's play. The base contains a hollow to place the nut in. By turning the weights, the slider moves and the laced high-boots come down to break the outer shell. To bring the slider up again easily and remove the cracked nut, simply turn the balance anti-clockwise.

Made in Italy in the Crusinallo di Omegna workshop, “The Strongman” is made of 18 18/10 stainless steel parts, as well as a brass screw. The steel parts are made using three different processes: the ‘cera persa’ (lost-wax) casting method is used for the more intricate elements of the design, numerically controlled machine processing is used for details which, in order to be consistent, need to be accurate down to the last millimetre; and plane laser cutting

is employed for the more complex shapes.

A real performer who's both unique and powerful, “The Strongman” is decorated by hand, with a few gilded details introduced by electroplating. Just like his friends, “The Jester”, “The Ballerina”, “The Ringleader”, “The Candyman”, he is limited to only 999 numbered pieces and with nine artist's proofs.

Nutcracker in 18/10 stainless steel. Limited edition of 999 numbered copies and 9 artist's proofs.
cm 15,2 x 11 – h cm 21,8



“The Ballerina” (Valentina)

A great belly dancer, but after getting discovered at a street performance by a well-known choreographer, Valentina fell in love with the gracious postures and the spinning movements of ballet. This little mouse had never seen a more promising ballerina and decided to dedicate all of his time to make her the best. Now, two years later, they are seen together on red carpets all over the world, not only as colleagues but as today’s most shining couple.

Marcel Wanders



"The Ballerina" is a graceful baby elephant who spins upon a gilded ball, performing classical dance steps in the company of a little mouse, her partner in the show. Marcel Wanders brings these two romantic characters to life in a poetical musical box.

The pedestal on which she performs her dance contains a mechanism that plays the tune: *The March of the Gladiators* by Julius Fučík, a melody that opens circus shows all over the world.

Made in Italy in the Crusinallo di Omegna workshop, "The Ballerina" is composed of 18 18/10 stainless steel parts put together using four different manufacturing processes. The 'cera persa' (lost-wax) casting method is used for the more intricate elements of the design that need to be precisely reproduced ; a numerically controlled machine is used to create the details which, in order to be consistent and symmetrical, need to be accurate down to the last millimetre; plane laser cutting is employed for the more complex shapes; finally, cold deformation of sheet metal, a

technique in which Alessi specialises and that represents its core business, is also used. The musical box mechanism is made by Swiss craftsmen.

Hand decorated and limited to only 999 numbered pieces and nine artist's proofs, it is, alongside its companions, "The Strongman", "The Jester", "The Ringleader", "The Candyman", a leader in what is an entirely original collection.

Musical box in 18/10 stainless steel. Limited edition of 999 numbered copies and 9 artist's proofs.
cm 15,2 x 10,4 – h cm 16



“The Ringleader” (Massimo)

With a never-ending bell sound in his head no one can blame Massimo for being a bit mad. From his high seat he sings out orders with his resonating voice as he is chauffeured around by his hungry little monkey. In Massimo’s head, he’s still the leader and everyone lets him believe so, but in fact, he lost that position a long time ago when the bell sound took over his mind. Luckily, Massimo’s big belly is the basis of a beautifully strong voice so no one sees a reason to burst his bubble. Massimo can happily keep collecting applause in front of a full audience.

Marcel Wanders



“The Ringleader” is a slightly crazy circus master who thinks he’s still running the show, whereas he really spends his days, from one bell-ringing to the next, being led around by his monkey. Marcel Wanders himself tells the story of this dinner bell, which brightens each day with its powerful and crystalline sound.

With a very distinctive red cape, elegant top hat and handlebar *moustache*, he steers his faithful companion from the seat of a little buggy. “The Ringleader” comes to life with a firm blow to the cylindrical hat, while his assistant hurries around, driven by the prospect of tasting another delicious banana.

Made in Italy in the Crusinallo di Omegna workshop, “The Ringleader” is composed of 35 18/10 stainless steel parts put together using four different manufacturing processes. The ‘cera persa’ (lost-wax) casting method for more complex elements to be reproduced; numerically controlled machine processing for details which, in order to be coupled, need to be accurate down to the last millimetre; three-dimensional

laser cutting for the more complex geometrical figures; spin forming for the parts where the number of forming operations needs to be minimised.

Hand decorated in a limited series of 999 numbered pieces and nine artist’s proofs, it is, alongside “The Strongman”, “The Jester”, “The Ballerina” and “The Candyman”, a sculptural object for collectors, dedicated to true admirers of applied art.

Call bell in 18/10 stainless steel.

Limited edition of 999 numbered copies and 9 artist’s proofs.

cm 21,6 x 13 – h cm 16,2



“The Candyman” (Alberto)

A hyperactive sugar addict, Alberto stays in control only when his mouth is filled with sweets. As he travels the world, he collects sweet treats in his hat as tasty memories. Once, Alberto fell in love with a pretty Belgian praline, but as his addiction grew stronger than his love, the sweet piece of chocolate very soon ended up in his stomach. He has still not forgiven himself for his terrible action, but he will remember the delicious taste for eternity.

Marcel Wanders



No merry band, bringing fun and laughter to the town, would be complete without the sweet-seller. “The Candyman” is a clown who wears a black and white striped top hat, his painted face beaming with happiness but also hiding the memory of a long-lost love. Thankfully, this memory doesn’t prevent him from generously offering goodies from his hidden little serving tray with a big smile. Made in Italy in the Crusinallo di Omegna workshop, “The Candyman” is a candy dispenser made of 18/10 stainless steel parts and finished using two different manufacturing processes. Cold deformation of sheet metal and three-dimensional laser cutting for the more complex geometrical shapes.

Along with “The Strongman”, “The Jester”, “The Ballerina” and “The Ringleader” it is hand-decorated and limited to only 999 numbered pieces with nine artist’s proofs. “Candyman” wins the hearts of all he gives out sweets to, knowing how to make our dearest wishes come true.

Candy dispenser in 18/10 stainless steel.
Limited edition of 999 numbered copies and 9
artist’s proofs.
cm 22 x 16 – h cm 33



In the U.K. the Alessi Circus Collection will be available exclusively at Harrods during September 2016.