

FLORE DE JORDAN

A Sculpture by Alice Riehl at Jordan Vineyard & Winery

Media Fact Sheet

A beautiful complement to the winery's newly-debuted Chateau Lobby redesign, Jordan Winery is delighted to unveil *Flore de Jordan*—an intricate sculpture by renowned Parisian artist, Alice Riehl. Drawing inspiration from the native flora grown across Jordan's vast 1,200-acre estate, along with the French tapestries adorning the walls of the Winery Chateau, Riehl meticulously handcrafted the detailed piece by-hand, comprised of more than 100 sculpted porcelain blooms. Following 11 months of diligent research, artistic process, and exceptional craftsmanship, Jordan Winery and Alice Riehl are thrilled to officially introduce the stunning piece as the newest addition to the iconic French-inspired Chateau.

Highlights:

Flore de Jordan

- *Flore de Jordan* features 36 large porcelain sculptures and more than 100 small sculptures.
- The side walls of the alcove represent the Jordan Chateau with tiny sculptures of Boston ivy shaped into the letter "J."
- The sculpture's center reveals a towering valley oak tree branch, along with native and cultivated plants from the Jordan Estate Garden—lupine and red clover, Claire Austin roses and pomegranates.
- The wall sculpture spans approximately 8 feet in height and about 16 feet in width.

Artistic Process

- Alice spent the first 90 days studying the native and cultivated plants of the Jordan Estate, as well as ancient tapestries known for their vivid flora. She poured over photos of the estate's lupine, crimson clover and other wildflowers, along with the many varieties of roses, dahlias and peonies found in the Jordan cutting garden.
- Alice searched around Paris and rural countryside to find distant relatives of the California plants in France, then collected samples and made dried-leaf presses of each to further her study. Two-dimensional drawings of the plants were then created to scale the dimensions precisely and test the essential shadows.

Inspiration

- Alice was struck by the composition of the antique tapestries at Jordan Winery—how the trees and the countryside are a more prominent subject, and she imagined a similar composition for the porcelain wall mural.
- She found additional inspiration at the Musée de Cluny in Paris, where the *La Dame à La Licorne* ("The Lady and the Unicorn") tapestries live—a series of six narrative tapestries dating back to the 1500s called, "The Mona Lisa of the Middle Ages." The tapestries depict a woman, a unicorn and many plants created in the *mille fleurs* ("thousand flowers") style, known for backgrounds filled with small, intricate flowers. Together, the tapestries tell the story of the five senses with the sixth sense representing love.

Artist background

- Alice Riehl was born and raised in Paris, France—the global epicenter of fine arts.
- Amidst a career in business, Alice Riehl took a sabbatical at Institut de Céramique Française in Sèvres, France, to learn the intricate techniques of creating sculptures, pottery and other ceramics. There, she began her inspired, incredibly successful artistic career.
- From her childhood, she found inspiration from ancient French tapestries and her grandmother’s needlework that would later lead her to experiment with lace and porcelain.
- By 2016, Riehl moved exclusively to porcelain murals for her work and eventually began crafting plant-inspired sculptures. Her studies at the institute also drew her to the intriguing approach of pursuing achromatic art versus color.
- Her past projects have included commissioned art for Four Seasons Astir Palace in Athens, Chaumet at Place Vendôme in Paris, The Intercontinental – Hotel Dieu in Marseilles, among others.

Timeline:

- Approximately 11 months from start to final installation (March 2023-February 2024)

About Alice Riehl:

- Nature comes to life and blooms into Alice Riehl’s work. The intricate pattern of her wall art is an invitation to a journey through an imaginary garden, in which human behaviors are exposed. She embraces the heritage of French Decorative Arts, ornamental and porcelain, and turns it into a sculptural material that continues endlessly. Alice moved beyond her professional corporate life when she met porcelain during her training at the French Ceramics Institute in Sèvres in 2003. Porcelain is soft and unpredictable. The strength of the material unveils itself in harmonies of white shades, and soft tones, reflecting light indefinitely. Nurtured by the memory of her grandmother’s needlework, she explored the combination of porcelain and laces, and turned the peculiar texture of this blend into the signature of her early work. Developing her mural work, Alice’s imagination has been nourished by the large Middle Age tapestries and their narrative patterns. They became a new crossover between textile and porcelain into the creative process. Alice Riehl lives and works in Paris, France.

About Jordan Vineyard & Winery:

- Founded in 1972, Jordan Vineyard & Winery was inspired by the great wine estates of France and the timeless connection between food, wine and hospitality. Under the guidance of second-generation proprietor John Jordan, Jordan Estate is an extension of these traditions, with its iconic French chateau, breathtaking views, sustainably farmed vineyards, natural habitat for wildlife and gardens for the chef’s inventive cuisine, offering a distinctive sense of place in Sonoma County Wine Country.
www.jordanwinery.com

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