

Founded in 1987, French furnituremaker **TAILLARDAT** has dedicated the last 20 years to exporting the decorative splendours of Versailles and the Age of the Enlightenment across the world.

To this day, the 18th-century French court remains a byword for elegance and refinement. Drawing inspiration from the designs and traditional production methods of the Enlightenment period, Taillardat specialises in producing high-quality furniture in the styles of the age – in particular, the internationally celebrated Louis XV, Louis XVI and Directoire styles.

The genius of Taillardat lies in its ability to combine contemporary inspirations with the finest artisanal traditions: to produce furniture that is at once classic and modern, with an attention to detail that is rarely to be found in our mass-production age. The designs for all the pieces in the Taillardat collection – which range from Régence-style bureaux to Louis XV-style chests of drawers and banquettes – are the work of company founder and director Micheline Taillardat, a woman with a passion for the aesthetic glories of the *Siècle des Lumières*. Mme Taillardat's dedication to her work has seen her business expand from a cottage industry in 1987, when it was literally run from her own home, to a global concern with more than 230 designs to its name and an output of more than 1,500 individual pieces a year.

Today, all Taillardat products are made in the firm's Orléans workshop, where the skills and savoir-faire of traditional furnituremaking reign supreme. All woodcarving is done by hand by experienced cabinetmakers. Only the finest-quality materials – specially selected cherrywood, mahogany, beechwood – are used, with back panels being executed in chestnut or solid oak. The finishing stages – varnish, patina, gilding, addition of leather and ornamental borders, tapestry – are then carried out by Taillardat's dedicated team of highly qualified artisans. All gilding is done using 22-carat gold leaf. Each piece takes between two and four months to make – a guarantee of the workshop's attention to detail.

Boasting such a wealth of expertise, experience and historical imagination, it comes as no surprise to learn that Taillardat was commissioned to contribute to the sumptuous set designs of Sofia Coppola's Oscar-winning period film *Marie-Antoinette*.

For further information, call +33 2 38 51 24 03, or visit [taillardat.fr](http://taillardat.fr)

1 Régence-style 'Jason' bureau; 2 Directoire-style 'Séverin' pedestal table; 3 Louis XVI-style 'Nancy' chair; 4 Louis XVI-style 'Oudry' table; 5 'Chevigny' sofa; 6 Louis XV-style 'Miramont' chest of drawers; 7 Louis XVI-style 'Marigny' bed; 8 Louis XV-style 'Valincourt' banquette; all by Taillardat

