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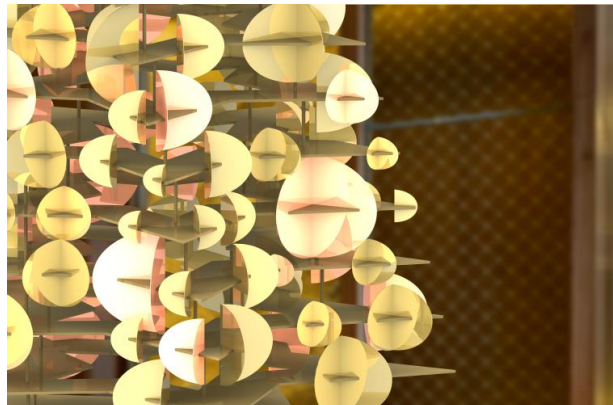
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**THE CREATIVE WORLDS OF FRANCE AND JAPAN MEET
IN THE ANDAZ TOKYO CHRISTMAS TREE**

*France-based paper installation artist Marianne Guély unites Japanese craft traditions
in original design to be unveiled at Andaz Salon event on November 27*

TOKYO (November 13, 2015) – Andaz Tokyo Toranomon Hills is pleased to announce its collaboration with paper installation artist Marianne Guély of France, in uniting the designs of Yuzen paper (traditional dyeing paper) engraver Takeshi Nishimura of Kyoto and the Vintage Gold, one of fine papers supplied by world-famous, Takeo Co., Ltd. in the making of an original, softly luminous Christmas tree to adorn the lobby space of the hotel’s 51st floor. This collaboration is designed to create an experience featuring indigenous touches that reflect the locality’s distinctive style which is also the concept of Andaz.

Crafted from Takeo’s Vintage Gold paper and decorated to katagami (Japanese paper stencil template) paper cut-outs with engraving by Takeshi Nishimura, the artisan of Yuzen-engraving in Kyoto, the 3.5-meter tree will be unveiled at an Andaz Salon reception on November 27. Marianne Guély will be joined at the event by Takeo president Shigeru Takeo and Nishimura himself, who will give a live demonstration of the intricate paper-engraving skills that have earned him the title “Master Craftsman of the Future” by the mayor of Kyoto. Nishimura’s designs for the installation bring to life auspicious pine symbols and forest animals, and are a fresh interpretation of the traditional Yuzen patterns that have featured in kimono textiles for centuries. When viewed from above, the tree itself will appear as a glowing star.



About inspiration for the project, Marianne commented, “At Andaz Tokyo I was instantly plunged into the art and craftsmanship of Japan, with its rich use of wood, paper and ceramics. The striking architecture inspired me to create a Christmas tree evoking the world of the samurai and the mountains of Japan.” Elements of the tree’s design have been drawn from samurai armor patterns. Marianne chose to work with Takeo, who has contributed to the culture and development of fine papers through their family business of five generations, and Nishimura, in whose creations she found the spirit of winter fairy tales.

On display throughout Christmas Day, the Andaz Tokyo tree will form a fitting seasonal accent to the hotel that draw on Japan's diverse aesthetic arts to blend the now and the new in spaces that are comfortably eclectic, unexpectedly localized and creatively distinct.



Paper artist Marianne Guély

About Andaz Salon

Andaz Salon is a virtual venue and series of events that deliver cultural experiences for Andaz guests and neighbors, encouraging creative inspiration through evocative content and spirited discussions with local influencers.

Each Salon event is designed to imaginatively inspire our guests through a new experience, and to connect them with like-minded individuals, ultimately sparking creativity. The events reflect the passion and vibe of the local community while connecting travelers with kindred spirits and artistic minds. Leaders of many of these events are called Cultural Insiders, who are friends of the brand and emerging talents in our Salon verticals. For more information, please visit andazsalon.com.

About Andaz Tokyo Toranomon Hills

[Andaz Tokyo Toranomon Hills](https://andaztokyo.com) welcomes guests to the vibrant Toranomon area, one of Tokyo's oldest districts and now a key central area located between the Imperial Palace and Tokyo Tower. Housed on the top floors of the 52-storey Toranomon Hills, all of the hotel's 164 rooms, including eight suites, offer breathtaking views over the city. The hotel features an array of restaurants and bars, including the Andaz Tavern and Rooftop Bar, unique venues for weddings and other events, the signature AO Spa, and a fully equipped 24-hour gym. Reflecting a modern view of Japanese style and culture, the spaces are designed by Tony Chi and Shinchiro Ogata. Andaz Tokyo Toranomon Hills showcases a series of live local events through the Andaz Salon program, in which creative minds come together to explore, learn about and share evocative content. For more information, visit andaztokyo.com, or call +81 3 6830 1234.

About Andaz

Global in scale while local in perspective, Andaz hotels deliver an innovative hospitality experience and attentive, uncomplicated service designed to accommodate guests' personal preferences. Hotels in this collection reflect the unique cultural scenes and spirit of the surrounding neighbourhood and are dedicated to creating natural and vibrant living spaces where travellers can indulge their own personal sense of comfort and

style. Twelve Andaz hotels are currently open: Andaz 5th Avenue and Andaz Wall Street in New York, Andaz San Diego, Andaz West Hollywood, Andaz Napa, Andaz Savannah, Andaz Maui at Wailea, Andaz Peninsula Papagayo in Costa Rica, Andaz Liverpool Street in London, Andaz Amsterdam Prinsengracht, Andaz Xintiandi, Shanghai and Andaz Tokyo Toranomon Hills. In the near future, new Andaz destinations will open in Scottsdale, United States; Ottawa, Canada; Mayakoba, Mexico; Palm Springs, Florida and Bali, Indonesia. Additional properties are under development in Delhi, India; Munich, Germany; Sanya, China and the Ophir-Rochor area of Singapore. For more information, please visit andaz.com.