

# MATHIEU LEHANNEUR

Press release  
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## Mathieu Lehanneur unveils Le Balcon – an exclusive space for the new Air France Business Lounge



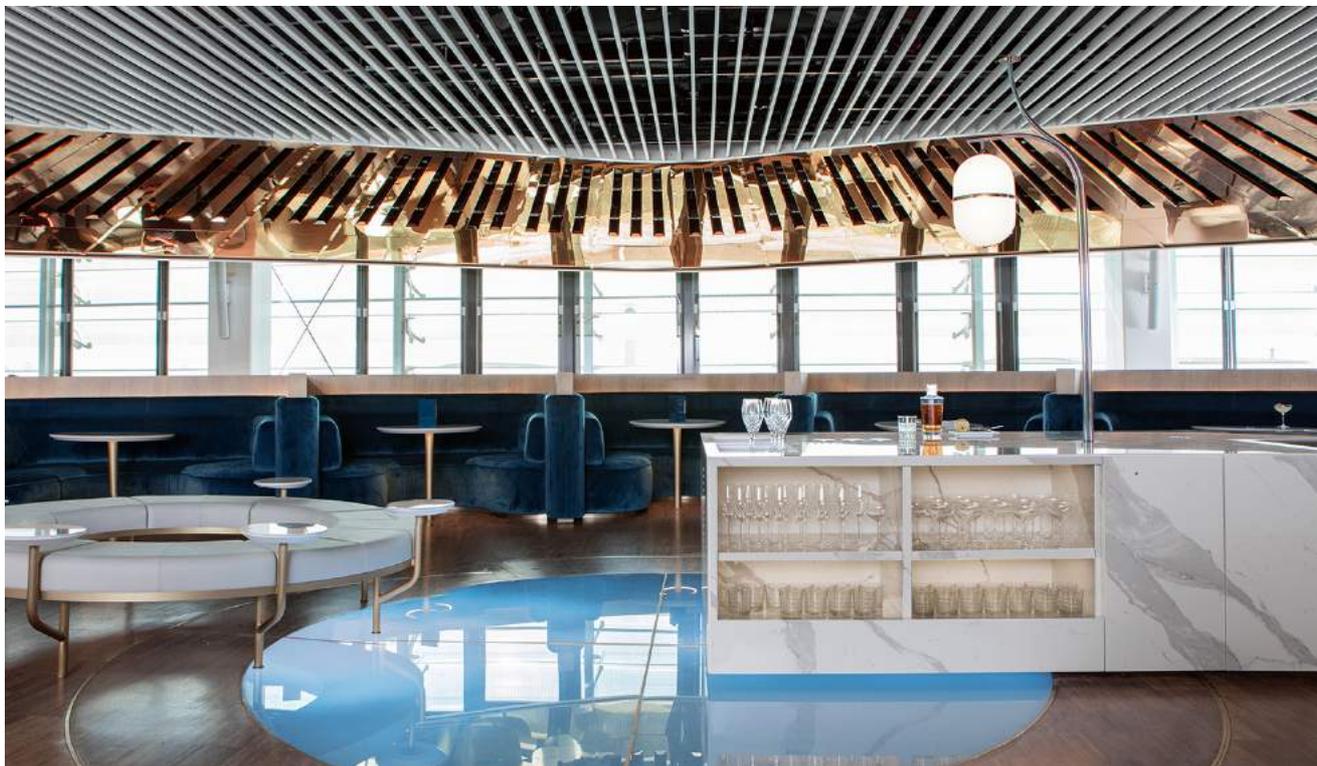
*Le Balcon by Mathieu Lehanneur, Air France Business Lounge, Paris Charles de Gaulle – Credit Felipe Ribon*

Air France has entrusted designer **Mathieu Lehanneur** to create a bespoke bar area for its new Air France Business lounge in hall L at Paris-Charles de Gaulle terminal 2E. A timeless space suspended between heaven and earth, Le Balcon is set against the runways in a unique and welcoming architecture.

Forming a curved structure sheltered under an immense golden mirrored ceiling, Le Balcon is a 160 sq. m installation that seems to be about to take off. We are no longer in Paris but not yet elsewhere.

The space includes a central bar with a succession of outlying theatrical box seats where passengers can relax and enjoy gourmet delicacies prior to their flight. Each box is upholstered in blue velvet and embroidered with their respective numbers, and features a large sofa, a pedestal table and the latest connectivity services.

*“Boxes are emblematic of a certain French lifestyle. From the Palais Garnier to the French Open, they expertly combine the need for privacy with a dynamic collective spirit. The lodge is always the best place to admire the show!” says Mathieu Lehanneur. “Flying is to remain motionless in a moving world. It is feeling the cities and clouds slide under one’s feet. I wanted this space to work in the same way – at Le Balcon, one contemplates in silence the incessant movements of the sky and people” he adds.*



*Le Balcon by Mathieu Lehanneur, Air France Business Lounge, Paris Charles de Gaulle – Credit Felipe Ribon*

*“This superb collaboration with Mathieu Lehanneur invites our customers to step into a genuine world of comfort and well-being inside our new Business lounge prior to their flight. Air France has always worked with the most innovative designers of the time to bring an aesthetic and prestigious touch to the world of air travel”, added Anne Rigail, Customer EVP, Air France.*

At Le Balcon, the show takes place outside as much as it does inside. The uninterrupted movement of planes on the runway mirrors the movements of the travellers, whose reflections enliven the interior’s mirrored ceiling.

Mixing wood, marble, glass and light, Le Balcon is at once chic, immersive and digital.

At the centre, the designer has integrated a LED screen into the parquet floor depicting an image of the sky. From daybreak to dusk, this giant window of light imitates the variations of the day in real time. Whatever your departure time, this sky is like an introduction to your journey, before jetting across time zones...

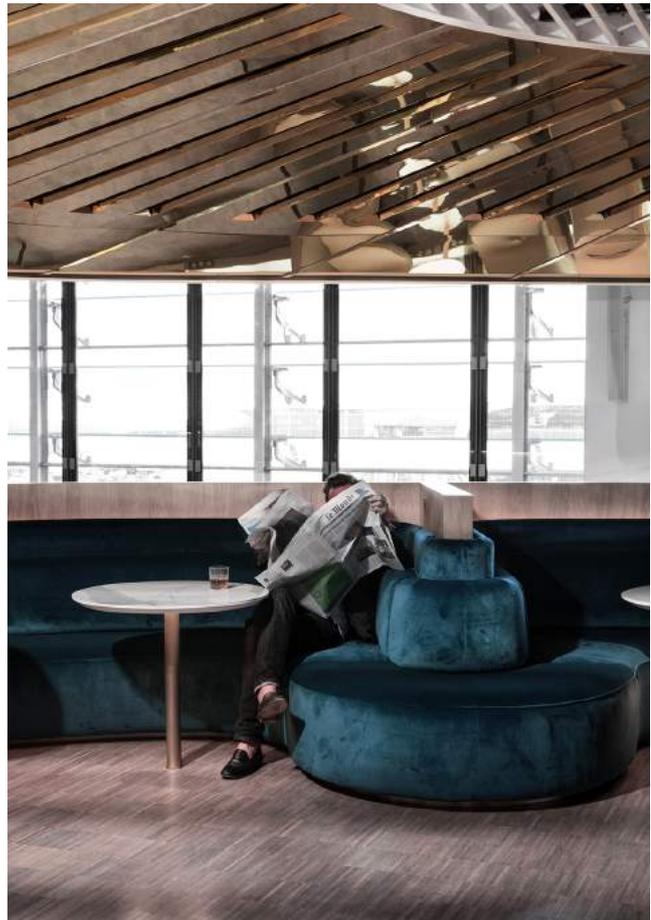
With Le Balcon, Mathieu Lehanneur wishes to offer a real concentrate of France’s savoir vivre, combining inventiveness, humour and elegance with a great attention to detail.

Le Balcon is an unmissable destination prior to boarding.

**Technical description:**

Le Balcon by Mathieu Lehanneur  
Air France Business Lounge, Paris-Charles  
de Gaulle Airport, Terminal 2E, Hall L

- 160 sq. m
- Self-service: from 05:00 to 23.00.
- Barman available for the customers from 19:00 to 21:00.



*Le Balcon by Mathieu Lehanneur, Air France Business Lounge, Paris Charles de Gaulle – Credit Felipe Ribon*

**Press Contact**

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**Notes to Editors**

At the forefront of the international design scene, **Mathieu Lehanneur** is one of the few designers of his generation with a genuine multi-disciplinary approach to creativity: his projects stretch the realms of product design and object to architecture, craft and technology.

Lehanneur thrives on creating spectacular projects that are intended to enchant and to encourage

wellbeing. His work defies traditional descriptions of 'design', 'science' and 'art'.

Ranked among the '100 World top designers and influencers' by Wallpaper\* and Surface magazines. He is also described as the 'champion of intellectual agility in the field of contemporary design' by Paola Antonelli, Senior Curator, Department of Architecture and Design, MoMA-NY.

Mathieu Lehanneur's studio collaborates with a number of prestigious brands across a wide variety of sectors including Nike, Veuve Clicquot, Audemars Piguet, Poltrona Frau, Pullman Hotels, Cartier, Air France, Schneider Electric, JCDecaux, Becton Dickinson and Sony. Lehanneur is also a partner of several companies in the areas of technology, cosmetology and urban mobility. Since 2015, Mathieu Lehanneur has been the Chief Designer of Huawei. His portfolio also includes limited-edition series edited by the Carpenters Workshop Gallery.

Mathieu Lehanneur has earned numerous awards including the 'Grand Prix' for creativity, awarded by the City of Paris, and the 'Best Invention Award' by US magazine Popular Science for 'Andrea', a plant home air filtration system, created in partnership with Harvard University and based on studies developed by NASA.

In 2009, the designer was invited to share his vision at the TED Global conference and, in 2012, Gestalten editions published a book dedicated to his work. A retrospective exhibition of his work was held at the Grand Hornu - Innovation and Design Centre, in Belgium.

Mathieu Lehanneur's works can be found among some of the most renowned public and private collections including the MoMA-NY and MoMA San Francisco, and the Pompidou Centre and the Museum of Decorative Arts, Paris.

Lehanneur latest projects include the '50 Seas' exhibition, a collection of 50 unique ceramic pieces showcased at Christie's Paris in January 2018 and at Monaco's Oceanographic Museum in May 2018; the interior concept of Maison Kitsuné's flagship store in New York; a series of limited edition pieces in marble and bronze, "Ocean Memories", edited by Carpenters Workshop Gallery; a collection of furniture edited by his own studio and presented at Nomad Monaco in May 2018; an itinerant museum for the Swiss watchmaker luxury brand Audemars Piguet previously presented in Shanghai; his work "Liquid Marble" showcased at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London; the interior design of Café Mollien at the Louvre Museum in Paris; a new concept of solar street lighting furniture launched during the United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Paris COP-21.

He is currently working on the interior design of the new Grand Palais development, Paris, and on multiple projects such as a hybrid engine boat, a foldable electric bike, the interior design for hotels, stores and public spaces, as well as technological and pharmaceutical design ...

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