

ARTIST OLIVIA STEELE TALKS TO POP.SEE.CUL



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pop.see.cul: Describe your work in 3 words

Olivia Steele: Contrast. Contradiction. Enlightening.

pop.see.cul: You are also the co founder and creative director of Pret a Diner. Can you tell us more about that?

Olivia Steele: I started Pret a diner 4 years ago with my partner KP Kofler, since then we have opened in 15 places across Europe and Brazil. It was a concept born out of the recession. We wanted to create a restaurant where curiosities could be satisfied. We believed in rejecting the obvious and embracing the unknown, doing something that has never been done before, allowing our diners to indulge themselves in a multi-sensual space, pushing the boundaries of design and food. Pret a Diner started with an idea, one which envisioned a dining experience where Michelin starred food, masterful cocktails, art, music and people are all fused together to create a sensory experience for culture seekers wherever we land. Its like a circus, but with food and art as the main attraction. Not bound by buildings or borders, we go to a city, take over an unconventional location like an abandoned building, an empty sky scraper, a tunnel underground, a church, a room in a museum... and set up a full service restaurant and art gallery for a short span of time from 10 days-3 months. Innovative experiences is at the heart of our mission.

pop.see.cul: Which piece of yours is your favourite?

Olivia Steele: The Missile : "Take Me With You" Its an old missile/rocket, weighing over a ton, with blue neon letters installed along the body of it. Its special to me bc it is a monument i made in honor of my father, after his death. It remains in a meadow at our family house in Nashville.

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