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Lobmeyr Epoche

In Loving Memory of
Stefan Rath
1943 – 2016
The Heart, Mind and Soul
of Lobmeyr Lighting
May your Light never fade!



1061-20 at Hotel Grand Ferdinand, Vienna



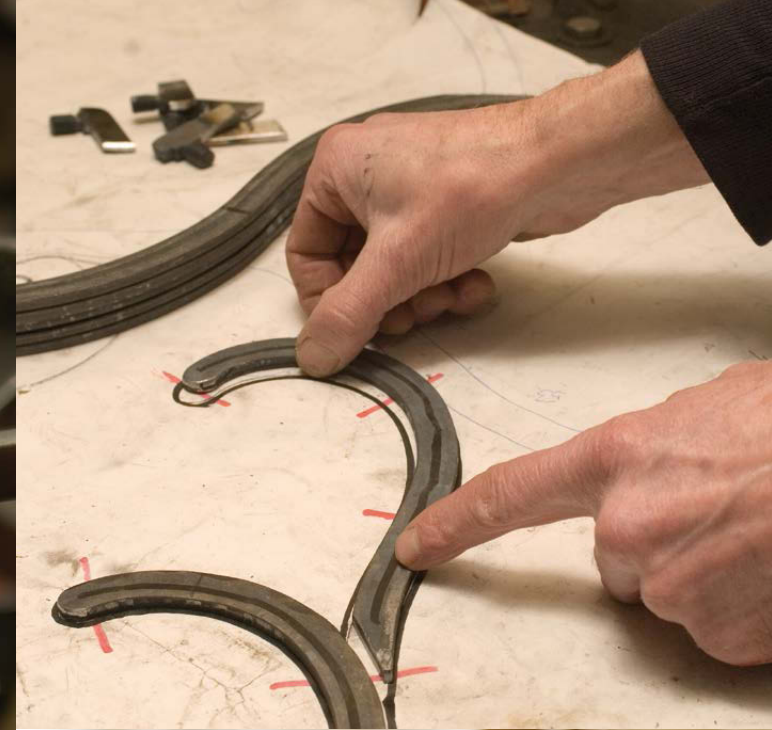
Our History is alive

The 19th century saw some milestones of Lobmeyr's creativity such as the fruitful collaboration with Theophil Hansen or the first electrical chandeliers with T.A. Edison. Beside the technical innovation, it was the focus on the highest quality in the manufacture, which drove these creations. Having no workshop for chandelier manufacture Lobmeyr relied on trusted and skilled manufacturers to collaborate with to execute such outstanding designs.

Jos. Zahn & Co, founded 1780, the year Maria Theresia died, was the most trusted and reliable manufacturer throughout the 19th century, meeting Lobmeyr's high demand on the skills of the artisans. Besides working for Lobmeyr, the family Zahn fathered archetypical designs that are regarded as common good today. The Maria Theresia Chandelier or the typical Viennese Biedermeier Chandelier are just a few examples.

In 1971, lacking succession within the family, Zahn approached Lobmeyr asking to be embraced root and branch by Lobmeyr. Stefan Rath, Jr. of the 5th generation followed the call to join his brothers Harald and Peter and merging the two companies, two workshops and two philosophies. He married Zahn's roots in crafts and authenticity with Lobmeyr's thrive towards highest quality and design. His engagement enabled Lobmeyr to create true originals of traditional designs, like crafted in their time own era and brought into this day.

Left page: One part of our archive storing antique chandelier crystal elements, parts and tools on a shop drawing (of a Historism candelabrum), another part of our crystal archive
Right page from top: bending of steel bars, checking for alignment, leaf gilding, attaching of crystal





6126-12



6126-36



6126-5

Viennese Baroque

The Austrian Emperors always aspired the savoir-vivre of the French Kings. Gossip has it that for those cast bronze chandeliers with their rich pendants of rock crystal the budget was too short. This challenged a unique Austrian interpretation of baroque splendour.

Early examples emanate a stern elegance that appears calm and timeless. Others rivalled with their French ideal, both in shape and sparkle. Jos. Zahn & Co. set the milestone with their creation of the now well-known Maria Theresia Chandelier from 1780 that became patron of the whole heritage, well into the 20th century.

Chandelier, Zahn & Co, ca. 1780
Hand-wrought iron, hand-cut crystal; Leaf gold or silver

6126-5: Dia.: 50 cm, h: 70 cm; 9 kg; 5 lights E14, 300 W.
6126-9: Dia.: 75 cm, h: 90 cm; 16 kg; 9 lights E14, 540 W.
6126-12: Dia.: 88 cm, h: 95 cm; 25 kg; 12 lights E14, 720 W.
6126-18: Dia.: 100 cm, h: 128 cm; 44 kg; 18 lights E14, 1080 W.
6126-24: Dia.: 120 cm, h: 140 cm; 60 kg; 24 lights E14, 1440 W.
6126-36: Dia.: 145 cm, h: 195 cm; 110 kg; 36 lights E14, 2160 W.
6126-48: Dia.: 160 cm, h: 215 cm; 48 lights E14, 2880 W.
6126-56: Dia.: 180 cm, h: 225 cm; 56 lights E14, 3360 W.

The frame is of iron, expertly wrought by hand. This is then leaf-gilded and clad with fitted glass bands or numerous crystal rosettes to augment the impression. The brilliance comes with the typical crystal pendants. An important detail is then the number and size of these pendants, but foremost a lively variety of different shapes that give the chandelier its energy.

Chandelier 6062-C-10
Zahn, ca. 1950

Dia.: 65 cm, H.: 59 cm
Wt.: 9 kg
10 lights E14; max. W.: 600
Wrought iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



Schwarzenberg
Chandelier 7089-12
Historical, ca. 1700

Dia.: 105 cm, H.: 150 cm
Wt.: 12 kg
12 lights E14; max. W.: 720
Wrought iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish

Bally
Chandelier 562-24
Stefan Rath, 1920

Dia.: 110 cm, H.: 120 cm
Wt.: 50 kg
24 lights E14; max. W.: 1440
Wrought iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



Chandelier 1909-8
Historical, ca. 1750

Dia.: 80 cm, H.: 129 cm
Wt.: 18 kg
8 lights E14; max. W.: 480
Wrought iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



Equitable Palace
Lantern 4021-3
Historical, ca. 1720

Dia.: 40 cm, H.: 64 cm
Wt.: 7 kg
3 lights E14; max. W.: 180
Wrought iron, lead-free glass;
Leaf gold finish

Maria Theresia
Wall Sconce 734-2
Zahn, ca. 1780

W.: 25 cm, H.: 35 cm
P.: 19, Wt.: 1,5 kg
2 lights E14; max. W.: 120
Wrought iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



Prince Eugene
Wall Sconce 704-7
Historical, ca. 1720

W.: 71 cm, H.: 120 cm
P.: 32, Wt.: 19 kg
7 lights E14; max. W.: 420
Wrought iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish





562-24 in a private living room
Photo: Christian Steinbrenner



1061-15, Private Salon, Vienna
Photo: Lukas Dostal



1061-20



1061-8



4200-6

Historism Series

The late 19th century saw one of the most creative periods in Lobjmeyr's chandelier development. Typical elements from Baroque or Hellenistic period combined with a new understanding of aesthetic and elegance shaped the typical style of the Ringstrassen-period. For Lobjmeyr Theophil Hansen was an early champion of this movement marking one of the high points of Lobjmeyr's history. When T.A. Edison came to Vienna in 1881 Ludwig Lobjmeyr partnered with him and continued this streak over the turn of the century, propelled by a new technology: the electric light bulb. The initial technical requirement of hanging bulbs inspired Lobjmeyr to an all-new aesthetic with masterpieces for the Hotel Sacher, the Lord Mayor's office and the Imperial Palace.

Chandelier 1061, Theophil Hansen, ca. 1870
Brass, hand-cut crystal; Antique gold finish

1061-8: Dia.: 57 cm, h: 100 cm; 12 kg; 8 lights E14, 480 W.
1061-15: Dia.: 70 cm, h: 100 cm; 15 kg; 15 lights E14, 900 W.
1061-20: Dia.: 88 cm, h: 120 cm; 18 kg; 20 lights E14, 1200 W.

Lantern 4200, Theophil Hansen, ca. 1875
Brass, lead-free glass; Gold finish

4200-3: Dia.: 37 cm, h: 70 cm; 18 kg; 3 lights E14 180 W.
4200-6: Dia.: 42 cm, h: 86 cm; 15 kg; 6 lights E14, 360 W.

At the exposition in Milan in 1883 Lobjmeyr presented a new take on the traditional bag-and-tent chandeliers, that into whole bodies of light with the new electric light. The pieces completely do without any candles. Funnily, later examples again show candles as the clientele seemed to need this homage to the living flame.

Sacher
Chandelier 41064-7
Ludwig Lobjmeyr, 1883

Dia.: 76 cm, H.: 102 cm
Wt.: 20 kg
7 lights E27; max. W.: 420
Brass, lead-free crystal;
Polished finish



Milano
Chandelier 2720-15
Ludwig Lobjmeyr, 1905

W.: 90 cm, H.: 165 cm
Wt.: 50 kg
15 lights E14; max. W.: 900
Brass, lead-free crystal;
Antique gold finish

Edison
Chandelier 2540-13
Ludwig Lobjmeyr, 1881

W.: 70 cm, H.: 100 cm
Wt.: 40 kg
13 lights E14; max. W.: 780
Brass, lead-free crystal;
Antique gold finish



Sacher
Chandelier 41063-2
Ludwig Lobjmeyr, 1883

W.: 38 cm, H.: 40 cm
P.: 16 cm, Wt.: 3 kg
2 lights E27; max. W.: 120
Brass, lead-free crystal;
Polished finish



Milano
Ceiling Fixture 41879-12
Lobjmeyr, ca. 1900

W.: 66 cm, H.: 35 cm
Wt.: 12 kg
12 lights E14; max. W.: 720
Brass, lead-free crystal;
Antique gold finish

Ludwig
Candelabrum 42278-6
Lobjmeyr, ca. 1880

Dia.: 37cm, H.: 77 cm
Wt.: 10 kg
6 lights: candles
Brass, lead-free crystal;
Antique gold finish



Milano
Wall Bracket 42321-3
Lobjmeyr, 2002

W.: 25 cm, H.: 40 cm
P.: 14 cm, Wt.: 4 kg
3 lights E14; max. W.: 180
Brass, lead-free crystal;
Antique gold finish



Chandelier 7090-O-6
Lobmeyr, 1950

W.: 65 cm, H.: 100 cm
Wt.: 10 kg
6 lights; max. W.: 360
Iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



A playful variation of the Viennese Baroque frames is to furnish them not only with clear crystal but also with colourful glass fruits, very popular in the 1830ies and again in the 1950ies. From the French tradition stem also very classical baroque designs such as the famous Louis XVI. with the elaborate bronze frames and large crystals or the abundantly decorated cast brass fixtures in Rococo style.

Wrought iron is an archaic material. In the hands of an expert blacksmith this apparent crudeness can be elaborated to unfathomed degrees of delicacy. Wrought iron can be bent, curled and twisted to create interesting yet massive frames. However, the artisan can also shape filigree ornaments such as flowers and petals to tender the roughness of the material.

Renaissance
Chandelier 54-8
Zahn, 1780

Dia.: 72 cm, H.: 89 cm
Wt.: 10 kg
8 lights E14; max. W.: 480
Wrought Iron
Leaf gold, black finish



Chandelier 1867-LO-8
Historical, ca. 1950

Dia.: 60 cm, H.: 80 cm
Wt.: 12 kg
8 x lights; max. W.: 480
Iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



Chandelier 7090-O-18
Lobmeyr, 1950

Dia.: 85 cm, H.: 120 cm
Wt.: 34 kg
18x lights; max. W.: 1080
Iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



Louis XVI.
Chandelier 6693-9
Historical, 1750

Dia.: 70 cm, H.: 115 cm
Wt.: 30 kg
9 x lights; max. W.: 540
Brass, hand-cut crystal;
Antique gold finish



St. Florian
Chandelier 1100-4
Historical, 1750

Dia.: 52 cm, H.: 28 cm
Wt.: 9 kg
4 x lights; max. W.: 240
Brass, hand-cut crystal;
Black finish

Wall Bracket 3238-WO-2
Lobmeyr, ca. 1950

W.: 30 cm H.: 40 cm
P.: 20 cm, Wt.: 1 kg
2x lights; max. W.: 120
Iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



Lantern 4110-5+5
Historical, circa 1780

Dia.: 64 cm, H.: 62 cm
Wt.: 12 kg
10x lights; max. W.: 600
Brass, hand-cut crystal;
Gold finish



Lantern 4117-3
Historical, ca. 1800

Dia.: 40 cm, H.: 70 cm
Wt.: 5 kg
3 lights E14; max. W.: 180
Wrought Iron
Black finish



Renaissance
Wall Sconce 53-W-3
Historical, ca. 1780

W.: 33 cm, H.: 36 cm
P.: 28 cm; Wt.: 3 kg
3 lights E14; max. W.: 180
Wrought Iron
Leaf gold, black finish



Wall Sconce 3238-WO-1Z
lobmeyr, ca. 1950

W.: 12 cm, H.: 40 cm
P.: 20 cm; Wt.: 1 kg
1x light; max. W.: 60
Iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



Table Lamp 4215-O-4
Lobmeyr, 1950

Dia.: 42 cm, H.: 67 cm
Wt.: 6 kg
4x lights; max. W.: 240
Iron, hand-cut crystal;
Leaf gold finish



Lantern 4110-I-3
Historical, circa 1780

Dia.: 30 cm H.: 52 cm
Wt.: 8 kg
3x lights; max. W.: 180
Brass, hand-cut crystal;
Gold finish



Flower Lantern
Lantern 4062-3
Zahn, ca. 1800

Dia.: 48 cm H.: 58 cm
Wt.: 3 kg
3x lights; max. W.: 180
Wrought Iron
Painted



5085-12



5085-30



5085-8

The Wiener G'rüstl

A Biedermeier original

Josef Zahn created this Biedermeier classic in the 1820ies, exactly where the workshops of Lobmeyr are bustling to this day. It is one of those designs that grew larger than itself, to become an example for its period and to remain to the present day beyond Lobmeyr alone. The chandelier consists of a delicate frame of thin brass bands. The Lobmeyr artisans decoratively emboss main belt is with traditional patterns using original tools from the period. The tender crystal chains and icicles imbue the fixtures with a humble elegance.

Chandelier 5085, Zahn & Co., ca. 1830
Brass, hand-cut crystal; Polished finish

5085-8: Dia.: 75 cm, h: 98 cm; 10 kg; 8 lights E14, 480 W.
5085-12: Dia.: 90 cm, h: 122 cm; 15 kg; 12 lights E14, 720 W.
5085-18: Dia.: 105 cm, h: 145 cm; 25 kg; 18 lights E14, 1080 W.
5085-24: Dia.: 125 cm, h: 165 cm; 40 kg; 24 lights E14, 1440 W.
5085-30: Dia.: 150 cm, h: 180 cm; 70 kg; 30 lights E14, 1800 W.

Most Biedermeier chandeliers feature clear and simple outlines. Despite this sternness, all fixtures show elaborate details in the manufacture that supplement their calm elegance and sophistication. The brass can be polished and varnished for a lasting shine, allowed to darken with time or given a patina for a sombre character. Another option is partly coloured crystals.

Chandelier 1650-6
Zahn, ca. 1820

Dia.: 52 cm, H.: 85 cm
Wt.: 7 kg
6 lights E14; max. W.: 360
Brass, coloured crystal;
Gold finish



Emperor Franz I.
Chandelier 1644-1
Zahn, ca. 1810

Dia.: 28 cm, H.: 60 cm
Wt.: 4,6 kg
1 light E14
Brass;
Gold finish



Emperor Franz I.
Chandelier 1644-6
Zahn, ca. 1810

Dia.: 52 cm, H.: 85 cm
Wt.: 8 kg
6 lights E14; max. W.:360
Brass;
Gold finish

Salesianergasse
Lantern 4194-5+5
Zahn, ca. 1840

Dia.: 50 cm, H.: 90 cm
Wt.: 12 kg
10 lights E14; max. W.: 600
Brass, lead-free glass;
Polished finish



Salesianergasse
Lanterne 4194-5
Zahn, ca. 1840

Dia.: 36 cm, H.: 72 cm
Wt.: 8 kg
5 lights E14; max. W.: 300
Brass, lead-free glass;
Polished finish



Wall Sconce 506-3
Zahn, ca. 1840

W.: 25 cm, H.: 42 cm
Wt.: 1 kg
3 lights E14; max. W.: 180
Brass, lead-free crystal;
Gold finish



Wiener G'rüstl
Wall Sconce 530-3
Zahn, ca. 1830

W.: 36 cm, H.: 60 cm
P.: 20 cm; Wt.: 4 kg
3 lights E14; max. W.: 120
Brass, lead-free crystal;
finish



5085-8, Palais Sans Souci, Vienna



1611-12, Private House, Vienna



1655-5

Nordic Empire

Between Russia and Sweden

In Northern Europe the sun is a rare blessing the people cherish intently. This love even shows in their specific aesthetics as motives of the sun, ice and fertility. The most beautiful chandeliers of this elegant style illuminate the Hermitage in St. Petersburg. In the mid-19th century Jos. Zahn & Co. documented them at their origin and added them to the repertoire.

The Corn Cob Chandelier is one of the milestones of the Russian Empire chandeliers. Its long and elegant shape reminds one of the namesake cob. On the column sit elaborately decorated leaf-blades pointing upwards to the crown. This is a strong metaphor of the sun with a double-corona of thin brass band.

Corn Cob, Chandelier 1655-5, Historical, ca. 1860

Dia.: 60 cm, H.: 110 cm

Wt.: 14 kg, 5 lights E14, W.: 300

Brass, hand-cut crystal; Gold finish

Common motives are curves and circles that symbolise the sun as well as crystal prisms and tender chains that mimic icicles and frost buds.

Most examples feature hand-refined cast elements and finely embossed brass belts. The metal frames are usually antique gilded. Other surfaces can give a stunning new character.

St. Petersburg

Chandelier 1607-16

Historical, ca. 1820

Dia.: 95 cm, H.: 82 cm

Wt.: 20 kg

16 lights E14; max. W.: 960

Brass, hand-cut crystal;

Gold finish



Hermitage

Chandelier 1611-12

Historical, ca. 1800

Dia.: 80 cm, H.: 100 cm

Wt.: 15 kg

12 lights E14; max. W.: 720

Brass, hand-cut crystal;

Gold finish



Hermitage

Chandelier 1602-6

Historical, ca. 1800

Dia.: 56 cm, H.: 90 cm

Wt.: 10 kg

6 lights E14; max. W.: 360

Brass, hand-cut crystal;

Gold finish



Hermitage

Chandelier 1699-12

Historical, ca. 1800

Dia.: 90 cm, H.: 145 cm

Wt.: 15 kg

12 lights E14; max. W.: 720

Brass, hand-cut crystal;

Gold finish



Table Lamp 937-3

Zahn, ca. 1820

W.: 42 cm, H.: 70 cm

Wt.: 3 kg

3 lights E14; max. W.: 180

Brass, marble, hand-cut crystal;

Gold finish



Napoléon
Chandelier 1675-12
Historical, ca. 1800

Dia.: 65 cm, H.: 85 cm
Wt.: 12 kg
12 lights E14; max. W.: 720
Brass
Antique gold finish



The grandfather of an emerited craftsman spent his apprenticeship with a chandelier maker in France. Returning to Vienna he not only brought all the skills and knowledge but also the tools and designs of the French Empire. Besides manufacturing these extravagant black-gold items in their full authenticity we have an archive of original fittings and decorations, opening a wide field for customisation and individualisation.

Around 1800 Zahn took over the whole archive and sample stock of a Dutch chandelier maker. This acquisition laid the foundation for our expertise in manufacturing these early baroque chandeliers with the authentic heavy brass cast and with all the original decorative elements and heraldic symbols. Originally made with a shiny polish a subtle antique finish especially evokes the air of centuries long past. A rub with orange oil gives it perfect care for a slow natural patina.

Bollen
Chandelier 275-12
Zahn & Co, 1780

Dia.: 65 cm, H.: 67 cm
Wt.: 15 kg
12 lights E14; max. W.: 720
Brass
Polished finish



Empire
Chandelier 5213-15
Lobmeyr, ca. 1870

Dia.: 59 cm, H.: 94 cm
Wt.: 10 kg
15 lights E14; max. W.: 900
Brass, wood
Antique gold finish



Diamond Cut
Pendant Lamp 1609-3
Zahn, ca. 1870

Dia.: 40 cm, H.: 95 cm
Wt.: 7 kg
3 lights E27; max. W.: 180
Brass, lead-free crystal
Antique gold finish



St. Stephen's
Chandelier 270-16
Zahn, 1780

Dia.: 135 cm, H.: 175 cm
Wt.: 55 kg
16 lights E14; max. W.: 960
Brass
Polished finish



Lantern 4170-II-3
Historical, ca. 1750

Dia.: 33 cm, H.: 50 cm
Wt.: 4 kg
3 lights E14; max. W.: 180
Brass
Polished finish

Napoléon
Table Lamp Si693-3
Historical, ca. 1870

Dia.: 30 cm H.: 63 cm
Wt.: 5 kg
3 lights E14; max. W.: 180
Brass
Antique gold finish



Simhart
Candle Stick Si771-3
Historical, ca. 1870

W.: 17 cm, H.: 43 cm
P.: 8 cm, Wt.: 4 kg
3 lights: candles
Brass
Antique gold finish



Large Blaaker
Wall Sconce 42435-2
Historical, ca. 1750

W.: 52 cm H.: 47 cm
P.: 20 cm; Wt.: 4 kg
2 lights E14; max. W.: 120
Brass
Polished finish



Gothic
Wall Sconce 227-2
Historical, ca. 1840

W.: 31 cm, H.: 23 cm
Wt.: 3 kg
2 lights E14; max. W.: 120
Brass
Polished finish



Simhart
Candle Stick Si66-6
Historical, ca. 1870

Dia.: 31 cm, H.: 75 cm
Wt.: 10 kg
6 lights: candles
Brass
Antique gold finish



Egyptian
Candle Stick Si50-1
Historical, ca. 1870

Dia.: 8 cm, H.: 24 cm
Wt.: 1 kg
1 light: candle
Brass
Antique gold finish



Flemish
Table lamp 960-2
Historical, ca. 1790

W.: 24 cm, H.: 52 cm
Wt.: 2 kg
2 lights E14; max. W.: 120
Brass
Polished finish



Wall Sconce 46-WA-2
Zahn, 1780

W.: 35 cm, H.: 38 cm
Wt.: 2 kg
2 lights E14; max. W.: 120
Brass
Polished finish



St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna
Photo: Tomas 1111, Dreamstime.com



Crayon and watercolour illustration of Medina chandelier 4120120

Mecca
Chandelier 40570-6+3
Stefan Rath, 1975

Dia.: 70 cm, H.: 105 cm
Wt.: 12 kg
9 bulbs; max. W.: 540
Brass, lead-free glass;
Gold finish



Medina Extension
41722-21
Lobmeyr, 1980

Dia.: 60 cm, H.: 106 cm
Wt.: 60 kg
21 lights E14; max. W.: 1260
Brass, hand cut crystal;
Gold finish



Medina Pendant Lamps
41127-I-1, -II-1, -IV-1
Peter Rath, 1986

Dia.: 35, 30, 32 cm, H.: 148 cm
Wt.: 5 kg
1 light E27; max. W.: 60
Brass, lead-free glass;
Gold finish

Mecca Extension
Pendant 41616-12
Stefan Rath, 1980

Dia.: 42 cm H.: 56 cm
Wt.: 10 kg
12 lights E14; max. W.: 720
Brass, lead-free glass;
Gold finish



Muscat
Wall sconce 42355-2
Lobmeyr, 2004

W.: 21 cm, H.: 61 cm
P.: 27 cm; Wt.: 11 kg
2 lights E14; max. W.: 120
Brass, lead-free glass;
Antique gold finish



Jeddah
Wall sconce 42304-WV-1
Lobmeyr, 2001

W.: 34 cm, H.: 246 cm
Wt.: 16 kg
1 light E27; max. W.: 100
Brass, lead-free glass;
Antique bronze finish



Al Khobar
Floor lamp 40673-9
Lobmeyr, ca. 1980

Dia.: 72 cm, H.: 210 cm
Wt.: 25 kg
9 lights E14; max. W.: 540
Brass, lead-free crystal;
Gold finish



Islamic Art

Rediscovering heritage (700-900)

In 1975 we heard the call to bid for the chandeliers of the new extension to the Prophet's Mosque in Mecca. Stefan Rath, Jr. travelled to Saudi Arabia and was surprised to see Viennese Baroque chandeliers of the Maria Theresia style in the lighting schedule. "You cannot want to have the chandeliers of the infidels' ballrooms..." were his reported words before he went to Alexandria to research ancient Islamic art and style. Lobmeyr's alternative proposal to design and manufacture a new Islamic prototype of lighting struck the nerve of the principal. It marked the beginning altogether new style: a modern Islamic design deeply rooted in the culture and traditional aesthetics.

A few years later Lobmeyr was again called to design the chandeliers for the extension of the Grand Mosque in Medina. Our prototypes soon became archetypes of this new style and inspired chandelier design for decade.

Medina
Chandelier 41201-20
Peter Rath, 1986
Dia.: 130 cm, H.: 160 cm
Wt.: 60 kg
20 lights E27; max. W.: 1.200
Brass, lead-free glass;
Gold finish





Pendant lamp 41616 at Masjid Nabawi in Medina
Photo: Ahmad Faizal Yahya, Dreamstime.com

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