

Product story 2023

## GUBI X PIERRE FREY: 9602 SPECIAL EDITION







## GUBI presents a special Pierre Frey edition of Tynell's 9602 Floor Lamp

A lighting masterpiece, adorned with a vision of a dreamlike garden

In this special edition of the 9602 Floor Lamp, GUBI brings together two masters of 20th-century design – the Finnish lighting maestro Paavo Tynell, and the renowned Parisian textile house Maison Pierre Frey. To honor Tynell's ground-breaking 9602 Floor Lamp, GUBI chose to collaborate with Pierre Frey in recognition of its expertise in crafting fabrics that are perfect for lighting. The result is a fresh and fantastical version of one of Tynell's most celebrated pieces, reverently reinvented with a vivid and evocative lampshade pattern.

First created for Helsinki's Hotel Aulanko in 1935, and reintroduced by GUBI in 2018, the 9602 Floor Lamp comprises a rattan-wrapped stem with a polished brass base and conical crown that ties the design together. Its slender elegance is tempered with playfulness in the exuberant dimensions of the shade.

This special edition features a pleated cotton shade in a specially selected artist-designed pattern from Pierre Frey, introducing a dreamlike new dimension into the Tynell Collection. The pattern, named 'Le Jardin de Palais', is a dreamlike depiction of a fantasy garden, full of extraordinary flora and fauna. Originally designed for a table service developed jointly with the ceramics manufacturer Faïencerie de Gien, the rich and romantic design represents an idealized, almost surreal rendition of a Persian landscape in the Safavid Dynasty of the 16th-century. In this garden paradise, an eclectic menagerie of gazelles, tigers, squirrels, flamingos, and herons inhabit a boldly colorful idyll.

The intricacy of the design creates an alluring contrast with the clean-lined, geometric simplicity of the 9602 Floor Lamp, while subtly referencing Tynell's characteristically Finnish love of nature, and his fondness for incorporating natural motifs into his works.

The fabric is pleated by hand in much the same way that Tynell himself employed when creating textile shades for



earlier editions of the lamp. It is a highly skilled technique, demanding a deep understanding of cutting, pleating, construction, and pattern organization. A complete two-meter bolt of patterned cotton poplin is fixed to a wire ring, stretched to form the shade, and then manually adjusted to position the pattern perfectly.

The pleating of the fabric, coupled with the kaleidoscope of colors on the shade, creates a beautifully variegated play of light that brings softness, warmth, and poetry into any space – an atmosphere reminiscent of lying under a tree on a summer's day.

The special edition joins GUBI's existing variants of the 9602 Floor Lamp, which features shades in plain canvas, wicker, and bamboo. Like those, it elegantly demonstrates Tynell's craftsmanship and instinctive affinity for beautiful combinations of natural materials. With the addition of the patterned and pleated shade, however, the lamp is elevated from the world of design into the realms of art. It is especially appropriate that this elevation should come through an exclusive collaboration with Maison Pierre Frey – which, in a compelling coincidence, was established in 1935, the same year that Paavo Tynell first put the 9602 into production.