

Robb Report



Eat Your Art Out: Tableware with the Inimitable Spirit of Jean-Michel Basquiat

Parisian porcelain maker Ligne Blanche unveils its latest artist-inspired collection.



Photo: Courtesy Ligne Blanche and the Estate of Jean-Michel Basquiat

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If you missed out on acquiring [Jean-Michel Basquiat's](#) rare-to-market mixed-media [Flexible \(1984\)](#) for \$45.3 million at [Phillips in New York](#) this past May or the late Brooklyn-based artist's [record-setting Untitled \(1982\)](#) at [Sotheby's in New York](#) last spring, you may find solace in owning pieces from the latest collection from [French porcelain house Ligne Blanche](#). Titled *Gold Dragon*, it includes a Limoges plate and a coffee mug, along with a fig-scented candle. Each of the items bears a facsimile of the artist's 1984 acrylic on canvas *Pez Dispenser*, which features a crowned dragon inspired by the popular plastic mechanical candy dispensers favored by children. (The original artwork sold for a seemingly paltry \$170,500 at Christie's in New York on November 8, 1989.)

"[Jean-Michel Basquiat's](#) crowned dinosaur is a take on childhood nostalgia and his love of cartoons, superheroes, and comic-book characters—the T-Rex becoming a readily recognizable image born of Basquiat's playful imagination," says Pierre Pelegry, who founded Ligne Blanche in 2006. The collection comes as the result of a collaboration between the house and the New York-based

Basquiat Foundation, which has licensed a dozen of his works to Ligne Blanche. Among the best known are the artist's *Untitled (Return of the Central Figure)* (1983), *Glenn* (1984), and *Untitled* (1982).



A Limoges plate with René Magritte's iconic "La Grande Guerre" (1964). It retails for €80 (\$93).

Photo: Courtesy Ligne Blanche and Phototheque R. Magritte-ADAGP Paris

To date, Ligne Blanche has collaborated with a dozen blue-chip artists and their estates for its offerings, including such notables as Jack Pierson, Keith Haring, [Robert Mapplethorpe](#), Andy Warhol, Gilbert & George, Tom Sachs, and [René Magritte](#). Among the iconic works depicted in the range of wares are Mapplethorpe's sensuous black-and-white image *Wrestler* (1989) and Magritte's *La Grande Guerre* (1964). "Through these collections, Ligne Blanche brings the allure of vibrant artworks into the everyday life of an ever-growing number of art lovers," says Pelegry.

The Gold Dragon plate retails for €80 (\$93), the coffee mug for €50 (\$58), and the fig-scented candle for €70 (\$81).

HOME DESIGN JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT