



Massette
MANTELS AND ORNAMENT

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Atelier Jouvence presents

Massette
MANTELS AND ORNAMENT

a beautiful collection of
french limestone fireplaces
and **ornamental stonework**

About Massette:

Massette Mantels and Ornament, a division of [Atelier Jouvence Custom Stoneworks](#), features French limestone fireplaces and other ornamental stonework in standard dimensions.

[Atelier Jouvence](#) began as a stonecarving studio specializing in exclusive, hand-carved, custom-designed stoneworks produced by a master French carver. The same expert French craftsmanship, beautiful natural stone, and high attention to detail that [Atelier Jouvence](#) provides to its custom stonework is carried over to everything produced in the standard lines of its Massette collections.

In this website, you will find an array of stoneworks, of the highest quality, created to incorporate the best elements of classical design, in styles ranging from traditional to contemporary.

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fireplaces
home

master stone
carver

stone range
hoods

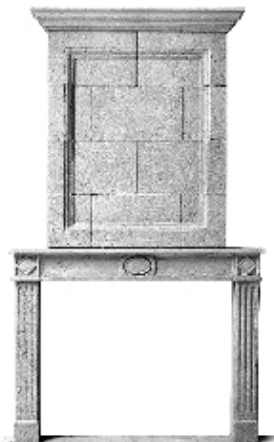
ordering, shipping
and installation

french limestone
options

contact

Choose from collection below to view details.

- ▶ [The Bolection A](#)
- ▶ [The Bolection B](#)
- ▶ [The Deco](#)
- ▶ [The Directoire](#)
- ▶ [The Florentine](#)
- ▶ [François I](#)
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- ▶ [The Tri-Minimalist](#)
- ▶ [The Tudor](#)



The Directoire Fireplace

Dating to the end of the 18th century France, the overmantel projects only slightly from the wall, and the ornamentation is simplified and geometrical.

Fireplace Opening	Opening Width-A	Opening Height-B	Shelf Width-C	Shelf Depth-D	Overall Width-E	Overall Height-F	Overall Height with Overmantel-G
44"	44"	40"	58 1/2"	8"	56"	48"	108"
48"	48"	40"	62 1/2"	8"	60"	48"	108"

Please note: The overmantel is optional

The Directoire Fireplace
▶ [click to see larger view](#)

- Every Massette fireplace is executed and carefully hand finished under the close direction of the Master Carver.
- Click here to view a detailed legend or explanation of our [dimension chart](#). Each fireplace design is offered in various standard sizes to fit a variety of typical firebox dimensions. The overall height, width and depth of the fireplace may be modified, as necessary, to accommodate your jobsite or design requirements. Pricing for such modification is available on request.
- Fireplaces are available in a choice of two different beautiful [French limestones](#): Classic or Rustic. We can also fabricate your fireplace in any other available domestic or imported stone. Pricing available on request.
- Some designs may benefit from the addition of a simple interior tile or slab surround to fill in any extra space between the opening of the firebox and the beginning of the limestone mantel. We recommend a complementary stone, such as a marble, slate, or granite, which should be available through your local tile distributor/installer. Alternatively, we can supply you with additional pieces of limestone to fill in this space. Grooves may also be cut into the fireplace to fit in the filler slabs. Matching limestone hearthstones are also available. Pricing on this additional stone and labor is available on request.
- All fireplaces are made-to-order at our Chicago-area production facilities, and available to be shipped nationwide. We also accept international orders.

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Louis XV Fireplace
▶ [click to see larger view](#)

Louis XV Fireplace and Lintel

The mantel takes the form of a bow, curving gracefully, with sculpted jambs and organic ornamentation.

Fireplace Opening	Opening Width-A	Opening Height-B	Shelf Width-C	Shelf Depth-D	Overall Width-E	Overall Height-F
42"	42"	36"	60"	12"	58"	45"

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interview with master stone carver olivier dumont: european trained artisan and american business entrepreneur

Olivier Dumont is one of only a handful of French master stonecarvers currently working the U.S. A native of Dijon, France, Mr. Dumont was trained in traditional French stone carving techniques by some of Europe's top stone carvers. Prior to coming to the U.S., he worked for several years as a professional stone carver, working on a wide range of carving projects and restoration work, on historical buildings throughout France. His background includes training in art history and interior design.

In 2000, Olivier Dumont established Atelier Jouvence Custom Stoneworks with his American wife and business partner, Sonia. ("Jouvence" is the street where Dumont lived in Dijon, France; "Atelier" means "workshop" in French.) Their Massette line of affordable, French limestone fireplaces in standard dimensions was launched in 2004. (Massette means "little hammer".)

Chicago Magazine recently profiled Dumont, saying, "Olivier Dumont, principal carver here, proves that fireplace mantels, staircases, columns, and fountains can still be made the old -fashioned way...". Here is the interview with Olivier Dumont:

Q. What do you enjoy best about carving? What inspires you?

A. I find the process of taking raw material and shaping it into something functional and beautiful intellectually very fulfilling. I can project myself into my work, with the finished piece being a reflection of my success (or failure). I also like the challenge of each new project, working with a new client to figure out how exactly to achieve what they're looking for.

Q. Why did you choose to go into stonecarving?

A. I liked the ideas of helping to bring back a lost art. I also wanted to be doing something creative and hands-on.

Q. How did you train to be a carver?

A. All of my training was done in France, my home country. I attended a well-known carving school near Dijon, where I was raised. Over the course of two years, I went through training at the school, where I was taught all of the traditional carving techniques, as well as masonry. I then continued on to an apprenticeship in various cities throughout France. Each region of France has its own particular stone, as well as its own carving techniques-and unique, magnificent historical buildings, of course. This provided me a very broad range of experience.

Q. How has stonecarving changed over the centuries?

A. Electricity had a huge impact on stonecarving. It allowed carvers to begin using machinery to help them produce more. This ranged from large gantry saws to much smaller hand-held air hammers and grinders. This was a huge help. Otherwise, the hand tools I use-the hammers, and many, many different types of chisels-are basically the same tools carvers were using in ancient Rome. I like the fact that I am helping continue that very old tradition.

[Atelier Jouvence Custom Stoneworks](#) is a division of Atelier Jouvence Custom Stoneworks, a family-run American company. Master carver Olivier Dumont is a native of France, trained in traditional French stone carving techniques by some of Europe's top stone carvers. He operates Massette (and Atelier Jouvence, which is dedicated exclusively to custom architectural stonework) in partnership with his American-born wife, Sonia Dumont. If you have any questions about our products, our process or our company, please call us at (312) 492-7922.



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