



Artist James Turrell's *Open Sky* installation inspired this necklace from Boucheron's Contemplation collection. BOUCHERON FENETRE SUR CIEL TANZANITE, LACQUER, MOTHER-OF-PEARL, AND DIAMOND NECKLACE, BOUCHERON.COM

the ephemeral. For Boucheron's 2018 Nature Triomphante collection, she transformed real flowers into exquisite jewels using 3D printing technology. Seizing passing clouds, though, would require imagining fine jewelry in a wholly different context.

It took Choisine two years to complete the Fenêtre sur Ciel necklace (left), a featherlight titanium scarf that is covered with tiny flecks of diamond and mother-of-pearl and then airbrushed with 30 microscopically thin layers of lacquer to create the effect of swirling clouds and blue sky. It's sensuous, poetic, and the pièce de résistance in Boucheron's new high jewelry collection, Contemplation.

"The concept of Contemplation is very apropos today, now that many of us have been in quarantine with time to appreciate nature and the little moments," says Choisine, who relocated to her country house in Portugal during the pandemic. "The need to be outside became very real. And the best designs are already there."

The new collection is more than just an expression of the outdoors. It is imbued with emotion and movement, and it grasps the fleeting, intangible beauty of the natural world. A delicate dandelion necklace made of titanium threads and tiny diamonds quivers with movement; wisps of carved mother-of-pearl feathers appear to bow in the wind; subtle shades of gray, white, and blue lend purity, softness, and lightness.

This spirit of innovation follows the vision of Frédéric Boucheron,

who established the house on Paris's Place Vendôme in 1858 and introduced concepts that were more modern and bold than those of his peers. He combined diamonds with humble rock crystal, for instance, and turned a peacock feather motif into a supple design that curves around the neck like a question mark. When Choisine joined the maison nearly a decade ago, she studied the vast archives, which made her feel free to continue to conjure new ideas without boundaries. "That is the magical part of my job," she says. "To see the dream come true." **T&C**

LOOK UP!

Many find creative inspiration in art. Few can make something like this from it. BY JILL NEWMAN

Three years ago, on a visit to Naoshima, Japan's remote island paradise for contemporary art lovers, Claire Choisine, Boucheron's creative director, spent hours in deep contemplation in the James Turrell installation *Open Sky*, gazing at the heavens above through an aperture in the ceiling. Turrell's works tend to have that meditative effect on people. For Choisine it was a life-changing moment, one she was determined to capture and channel into something lasting.

As a dreamer and alchemist, Choisine already has a track record of immortalizing