JOSEF HOFFMANN
VASES FROM
1922–1923 IN ART
DECO STYLE

We present a design by Josef Hoffmann from the turn of the year 1923, exceptional in its architectural rendition, proportions, and manual cut. This timeless piece commemorates the 150th anniversary of the renowned designer and architect, whose creations mark the high points of glass design of the 20th century. This edition is limited to a symbolic 150 pieces.
The 40-centimetre tall hand-cut vase is the embodiment of Moser DNA, with perfection in the overall cut and precision in the individual cuts. It may not be obvious at first glance, but this piece features one of the most complex designs that our glassmakers have ever created.

Josef Hoffmann

Austrian architect and designer Josef Hoffmann (1870–1956) was one of the founders of Viennese Art Nouveau. One of his most famous architectural achievements is the Stoclet Palace in Brussels, widely regarded as a groundbreaking example of modern architecture. In 1903, he co-founded the Wiener Werkstätte – a Viennese avant-garde art association. He also employed his creativity in household glassware, creating mainstay collections for the Wiener Werkstätte and the Viennese company Lobmeyr. At the time, the supplier and implementer of Hoffmann’s unique designs for both of these organisations was none other than Moser glassworks. Hoffmann’s original vases are displayed in the Glass Museum in Passau, Germany.
Realization at the glassworks demands absolute precision and focus from the glassmakers, not only during the blowing of the basic shape, but also when the individual parts are joined together while hot (still on the blowpipe). Two master glassmakers stand facing each other, each of them holding a different shape on their blowpipe, focusing on the precision of the axis and the moment when both pieces are joined into one.

Then comes the cut, giving shape to the central crystal in adherence to strict geometry. This vase heralded a new approach to glassmaking, which only manifested itself much later, in 20th century design.