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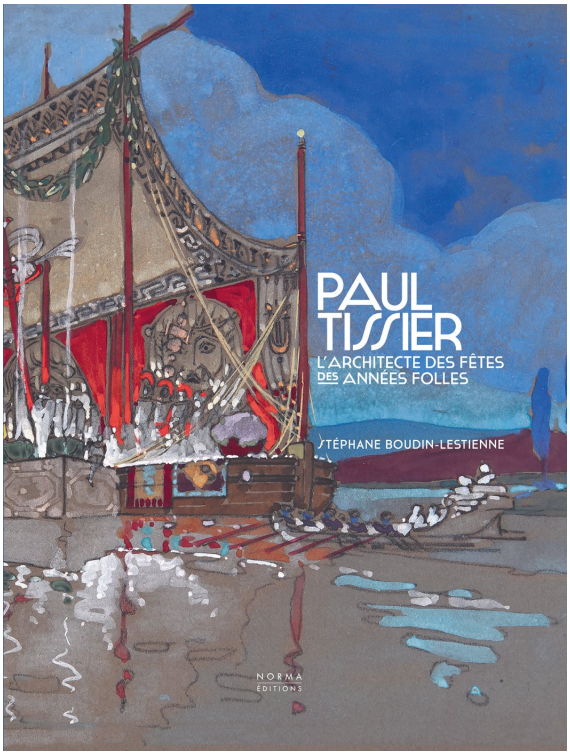

Paul Tissier. Architecte des fêtes des Années Folles.

Stéphane Boudin-Lestienne

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- This first monograph draws on the 400 set elements and 2,000 graphic documents that survive in Paul Tissier's archive
- Taking us to the heart of the excesses of the Roaring Twenties

The architect Paul Tissier (1886-1926) turned his short life into a multi-faceted artistic adventure. A student at the Beaux-Arts de Paris, where he founded the Association symphonique, he became president of the famous Quat'z'Arts ball. His talent as a watercolorist and draughtsman made him a witness to the ruins of the 1914-1918 war. Whether in the devastated regions or on the Côte d'Azur, he developed a unique catalogue of modular houses inspired by the region, combining traditional architecture with modern design. In 1923, Tissier was entrusted by the Société des grands hôtels de Nice with the organization of exceptional festivities based on themes such as Russia, the Far East, Ancient Rome and Latin America, as well as underwater kingdoms and many other fantasies revolving around childhood, fashion and cubism. With his wife Gisèle, he was responsible for both the scenography and the staging: splendidly colored painted canvases, extravagant costumes, spectacular dances, processions, naval jousts, fireworks and illuminations… A shooting star, Paul Tissier created almost 100 festivities across Europe in three years, before suddenly passing away. This first monograph draws on the 400 set elements and 2,000 graphic documents that survive in his archive, taking us to the heart of the excesses of the Roaring Twenties.

Text in French.

Stéphane Boudin-Lestienne is an art historian. Since 2013, he has been in charge and co-curator of exhibitions at the Villa Noailles. He is notably the author, with Alexandre Mare, of *Rob Mallet-Stevens - Itinéraires, Paris, Bruxelles, Hyères* (2016), AAM, *Association Villa Noailles, Charles and Marie-Laure de Noailles, Mécènes du xxe siècle, Bernard Chauveau* 2020, F*aust Magicien. Jean Hugo. Une lanterne magique chez les Noailles*, Norma, 2018.

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