



Nouveau Parisienne

Photos of Kambrid taken by Carse



What might be seen as the stylish outcome of one of France's grandest transitional epochs was first brought on by a certain widespread cultural and spiritual anxiety. A need for new expression led to a more mystical way of looking at nature, art and the city's industrial environment. This revealed itself in a visionary design, which luxuriously branched its way through all aspects of art and industry in the sinuous lines and sensual curves of Art Nouveau. Though its critics may have dismissed the style as a mad flaunt with "foliage on the ceiling, sea serpents chasing each other around the walls and entrance doors [are] guarded by appalling dragons...", those who desired a fresh look at the world were instantly infatuated. The international phenomenon of Art Nouveau proved that grace and radicalism could indeed coexist.

Quote from J.H. Elder Duncan, 1911

