

Berlin Report

July 2025

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1. Café Gentil

Project Overview

In recent years, blue has emerged as a defining color in Berlin's restaurant interiors. One particularly striking example is Café Gentil, where the ceiling and walls are painted in Yves Klein Blue—a space so memorable, it leaves a lasting impression on every visitor.

The owner, Christophe Collado, is a Frenchman with a gentle smile who chose the word "Gentil"—French for "kind" or "lovely"—as the café's name. Originally from Lyon, Christophe developed a passion for design at a young age, collecting various objects and studying art history at university. He once operated a vintage furniture store before relocating to Berlin to realize his long-held dream of opening a café.

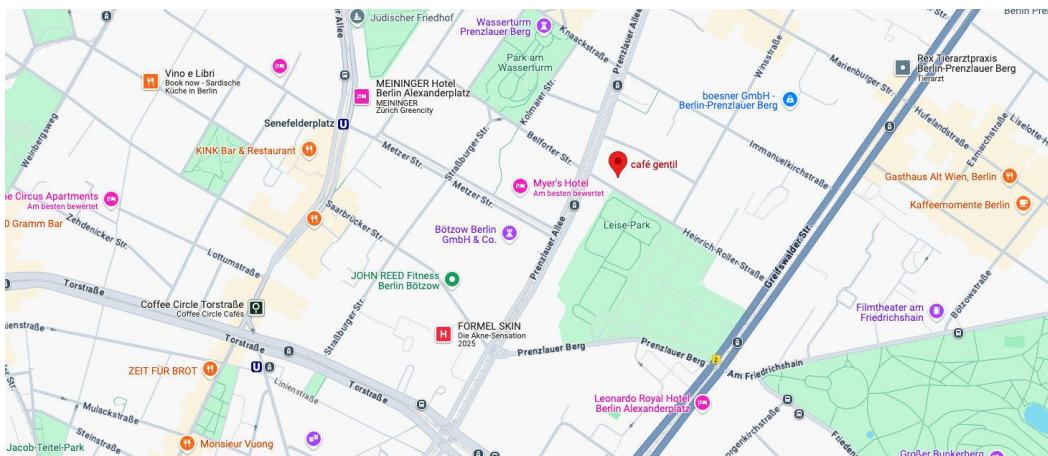
Blue, traditionally believed to suppress appetite, is rarely used extensively in restaurant interiors. However, Christophe embraced the color in homage to a great French artist, aligning with his concept of offering exclusively French coffee and produce. Bright mid-century furniture, playful accessories, and an abundance of greenery soften the intensity of the deep blue, infusing the space with warmth and movement.

A white cushioned sofa rests atop a vintage Italian chair from the 1960s, where the worn wooden frame and elegant curves flowing from back to legs catch the eye. In the co-working space at the rear, mid-century metal stools feature graphic lattice backrests. The space is accented by small spherical lamps and corrugated pendant lights designed by Markus Johansson. A counter clad in white tiles with delicate blue grout ties the palette together. Toward the back, a single green room features mid-century ceramic wall tiles. Even the tableware—china with subtly irregular coloring—echoes the eclectic design approach. The result is a curious but inviting atmosphere where elegance and simplicity effortlessly coexist.

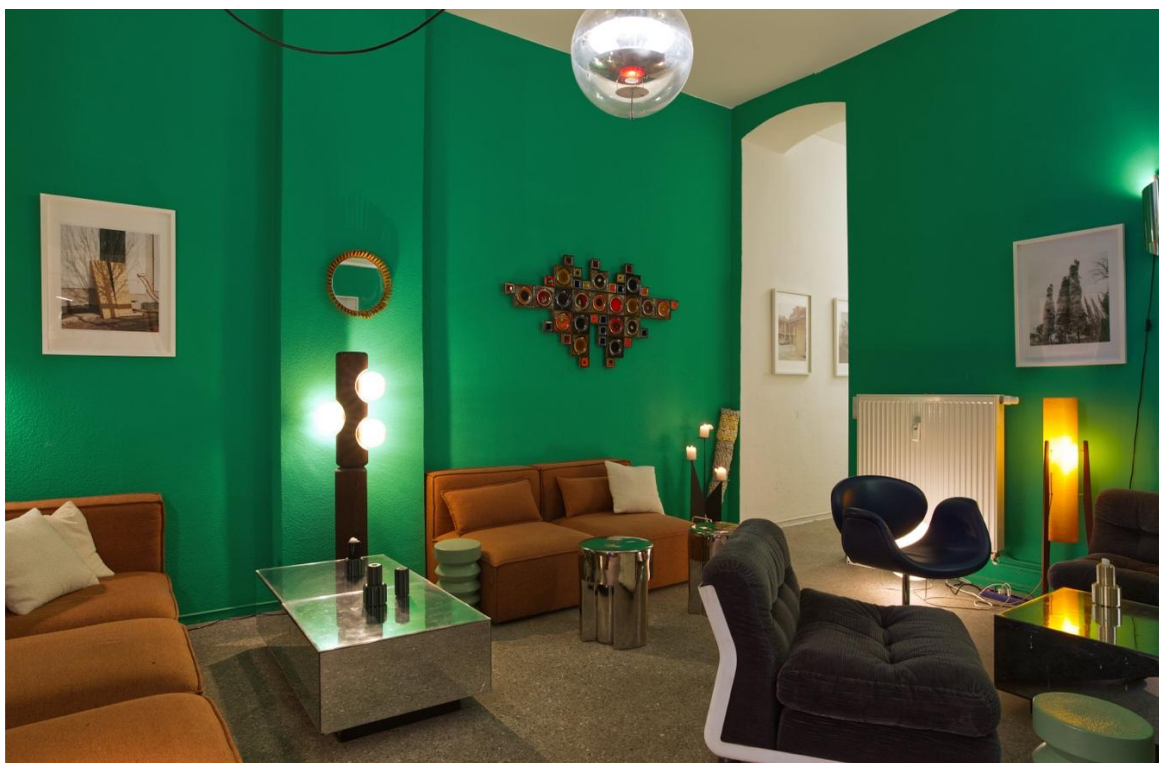
Project Details

1. Client: Café Gentil / Christophe Collado
2. Type of Business: Café
3. Open Date: 22.11.2024
4. Location: Heinrich-Roller-Straße 27, 10405 Berlin
5. Size: 100 qm
6. Interiordesign: Inhouse

Location







Above: The walls display the work of a photographer from Lyon.

Bottom right: A pink neon tube is used as a signboard. Bottom left: Objects by Séverin Millets, an artist from Lyon.





Above: A large, dynamic green centerpiece breathes life into the space, softening what might otherwise feel sterile or inorganic.

2. Manon Brasserie Nouvelle

Project Overview

Chef The Duc Ngo runs several popular Asian restaurants in Berlin. It all began nearly 30 years ago with the opening of his sushi restaurant Kuchi. Since then, he has gone on to open establishments such as the fine dining restaurant Shiroy Shiro, the upscale Japanese eatery 893 Ryōtei, known for its hip interior design, and the authentic ramen shop Cocolo. With his Vietnamese roots, he has also developed Vietnamese and Korean street food restaurants. In recent years, he has opened restaurants not only in Berlin but also in other parts of Germany. This year, he opened a French brasserie, Manon Brasserie Nouvelle, which has attracted a lot of attention.

Manon Brasserie Nouvelle is located in “Roomers Berlin,” a renovated luxury five-star hotel that boasts over 100 years of history. The hotel is located in Charlottenburg, a district in West Berlin with a unique atmosphere, situated near the grand boulevard Kurfürstendamm—lined with luxury brand boutiques—and close to the opera house, right across from the University of the Arts. Here, Ngo made the deliberate choice to offer elegant French bistro cuisine rather than Asian fare.

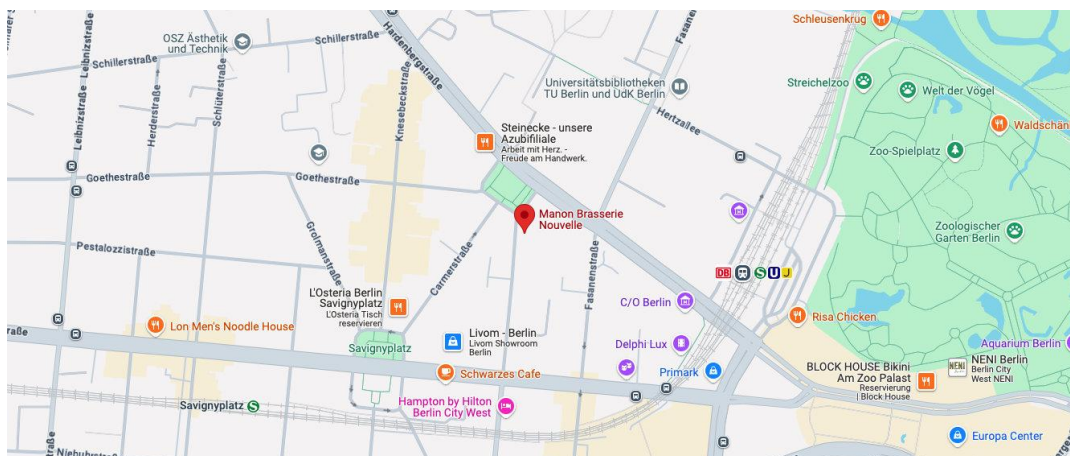
Inspired by Serge Gainsbourg's song “Manon,” Hyunjung Kim created a sweet, feminine interior that echoes the wistful chanson of love and hate.

The stone mosaic flooring is complemented by chairs in orange, red, pink, and purple. For lighting, Art Deco-style pendant lights and mid-century table lamps with rounded shapes emitting soft light were chosen. Small touches of ingenuity shine through in the simplicity of the interior, such as the cloud-shaped corners of the two-person stone table.

Project Details

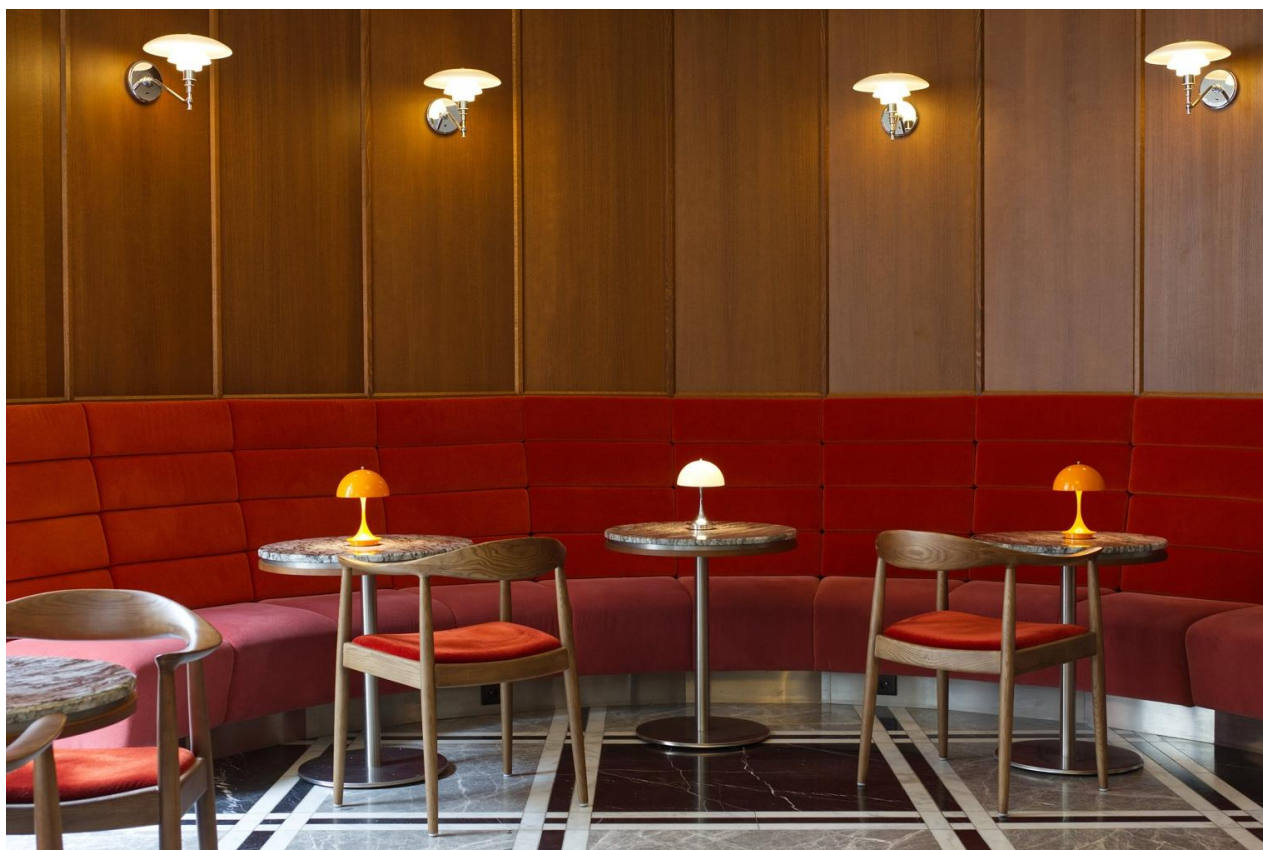
1. Client: The Duc Ngo, Roomers Berlin Steinplatz, Autograph Collection
2. Type of Business: Restaurant
3. Open Date: 06.05.2025
4. Location: Steinplatz 4, 10623 Berlin
5. Size: 200 seats
6. Designer: Hyunjung Kim
7. Website : <https://www.roomers-hotels.com/berlin/eat-and-drink/>

Location





Above: A serene, classic hotel interior. The ceiling's plaster carvings and accessories have been carefully chosen to echo the space's remaining Art Deco elements. Below: The bar corner.





Above: A table featuring distinctive cloud-shaped corners.

Bottom right: Entrance to the modern bar. Bottom left: Bar counter with record players, evoking the atmosphere of a Japanese bar.

