The Aluchromists: an artistic movement using organic colouring of anodic films on aluminium for artworks creation

J-P. Cavalié, L. Arurault*

*Université de Toulouse, CIRIMAT, UPS/INPT/CNRS, LCMIE, Bat 2R1 ;
118 route de Narbonne, 31062 Toulouse Cedex 09, France
arurault@chimie-ups-tlse.fr

At the end of the 1950’s, a group of Belgian artists gathered together under the name “Group of Belgian Aluchromists” and created the first artworks using the colouring of porous anodized aluminium plates. The artists succeeded in appropriating industrial procedures and technologies, such as the use of colouring organic pigments, but adapted them to their creative needs. Artists in France also followed this Belgian artistic trend in the 1960’s and 1970’s and form a group around Cannes gallery owner Cécile de Terssac. Claude Morini (1939-1982) was the most emblematic of the members of this French artistic group. Now, there is no more specific Aluchromists group, but numerous artists use the Aluchromy, alone or in association with other techniques (collage, painting…) or materials (metal, wood, plastic…) to create decorative parts (costume jewellery…) or more personal artworks.

This study is mainly focused on the historical development of this artistic movement and the analysis on their specific techniques to apply the colouring pigments. Several outdoor or indoor artworks will be showed to illustrate the different creations.

References
