

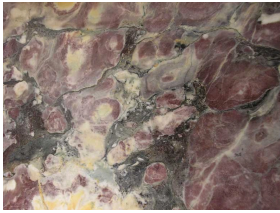


**Fleur de Pêcheur marble** is a historic marble, used a lot during the 19<sup>th</sup> century to make exceptional works of art. For example the extraordinary fireplace in main hall of the **Napoleon III apartments at the Louvre museum**, decorated with babies in bronze that catch the light.

An antique fireplace made out of **Fleur de Pêcheur marble** is found in The Marble House, in Newport, in United States, and was made by Jules Allard.

The original quarry, opened during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, is found in Serravezza, in the Carrara region in Italy. Its variety is thus called "*Fior di Pesco Apuano*" (Fleur de Pêcheur Apuane) in order to distinguish it from its greek homonym, originally from Eretria. This marble is a breche marble made up of irregular shades of purple, red and pink. During the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it was used a lot for religious decoration. It was also used a lot under the Second Empire, for example to decorate the opera house in Paris (**Palais Garnier**). During the 20<sup>th</sup> century, quarries that produced this marble were found in Versilia and Garfagnana, and more recently in Renana, Forno and Massa. Today, this marble is rarely extracted and is thus becoming more and more rare.

Sample of Fleur de Pêcheur marble



Sample of Fleur de Pêcheur marble



Base of column made out of Fleur de Pêcheur marble making up the large staircase in the opera house in Paris (Palais Garnier).



Large Regence style fireplace decorating the oval room in the Soubise hotel in Paris.



Exceptional fireplace made out of Fleur

de Pêcher marble with bronze putti features decorating the Napoleon III appartments in the Louvre Palace.



Sublime fireplace made out of Fleur de Pêcher marble made by Jules Allard for the Golden Ball room of Marble House, William Kissam Vanderbilt's residence.