

Grand jury OYEA 2024

Guillaume Houzé

Member of the executive board, Image and Communication Director of the Galeries Lafayette group, Chairman & Founder of Motier Ventures

Guillaume Houzé was born in Paris in 1981. A business leader, investor and patron of the arts, he is a member of the executive board, Image and Communication Director of the Galeries Lafayette group, Chairman of Lafayette Anticipations - Galeries Lafayette Corporate Foundation, and founding Chairman of Motier Ventures, the family office of the family that owns the department stores. He is also Chairman of ANDAM - Association Nationale pour le Développement des Arts de la Mode.

He holds various directorships at the IFM - Institut français de la Mode, the Fonds pour Paris and at the Museum of Modern art of the City of Paris, of which he chairs the Committee for Contemporary Creation.

In 2020, he was made an Officier des Arts & Lettres.

He is part of the fifth generation of management of the Galeries Lafayette group, in a family of entrepreneurs for 125 years, specialized in supporting creators and innovations. In October 2021, he founded Motier Ventures, the family office he heads. An investment vehicle dedicated to start-ups and attached to Motier, the family holding company that owns the Galeries Lafayette group. This agile, human-scale structure has set itself the mission of investing in start-ups with up to two years of existence and which rely on technology to aim for hyper-growth.

In addition to financial support, Motier Ventures puts its expertise and contacts at the disposal of the start-ups to bring concrete added value to entrepreneurs. Mobilizing a network that starts with the Galeries Lafayette group's different brands, but extends to many industries beyond retail, luxury and fashion.

“As of today, Motier Ventures has already made over eighty investments in a wide variety of start-ups, not limited to our historical areas of activity. We will continue to support French Tech's most ambitious projects focusing on 6 themes: Future of Commerce, FinTech, CreativeTech, Consumer & Gaming, Infra & Tooling, and Future of Work. We have also developed two cross-functional specialties: blockchain and artificial intelligence.”