



NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Cakes Haute Couture, Catalonia, Spain

Cakes Haute Couture was created in 2002 by top Spanish cake designer Patricia Arribáizaga. The first cake decorating company of its kind in Spain, today Cakes Haute Couture provides cakes, cupcakes, cookies and macarons for some of the most exclusive events across the country as the popularity of sugarcraft continues to grow worldwide. Here Patricia tells *Cakes & Sugarcraft* about how her company has changed over the years.



Patricia Arribáizaga, founder of Cakes Haute Couture

The company name, Cakes Haute Couture, arose from my wish to link the world of patisserie with the world of haute couture fashion. At Cakes Haute Couture, each edible creation begins, as any haute couture outfit, with a unique, tailor-made design, which is then brought to life by an artist's loving hand. I'm a fine arts graduate so many of my cake designs are inspired by architecture as well as high fashion and flowers. In addition to the care and attention to detail that is taken over the design, I only use natural, preservative- and

additive-free ingredients to ensure the cakes taste just as good as they look.

When the company began, the majority of clients were foreigners living in Spain, from the USA, the UK and Latin America, with some commissions from couples visiting Spain to get married. Today Cakes Haute Couture takes orders from across Spain and is well known by prestigious Spanish event organisers and wedding planners. Recently the company has created cakes and edible centrepieces to celebrate the 50th birthday of Mattel's Barbie

in Barcelona as well as (famous Spanish jewellers) Tous' 25th anniversary celebration of their bear design jewellery, and much more.

In 2004, Cakes Haute Couture opened a cake decorating school. I now pass on all of the latest cake decorating techniques to students visiting from across Europe and as far away as Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Venezuela, ensuring they leave with a high level of technical skill and are equipped to launch their own professional cake-decorating careers.

