

LAFFANOUR

GALERIE DOWNTOWN/PARIS

CHARLOTTE PERRIAND, JEAN PROUVÉ, PIERRE JEANNERET
MASTERS OF MODERNITY

10 - 18 SEPTEMBER 2016 - LA BIENNALE DES ANTIQUAIRES PARIS



Charlotte Perriand, Bench Japon, Ca. 1966



Jean Prouvé, Présidence Desk, Ca. 1945



Pierre Jeanneret, Table for Jean Prouvé, Ca. 1943

For the Biennale des Antiquaires 2016 at the Grand Palais, François Laffanour, internationally recognized as a post-war architect furniture specialist, presents a selection of pieces by Pierre Jeanneret, Charlotte Perriand and Jean Prouvé. This exceptional set of furniture represents a reflexion on the idea of modernity and on the innovations brought by these designers.

Charlotte Perriand (1903-1999), one of the main figures of 1950s design, a free and committed woman, devoted to creating furniture combining modern lines with traditional materials and techniques. Among the exceptional masterpieces will be presented a rare bench with a steel structure, designed in 1966 for the private residence of the ambassador of Japan in France. Jean Prouvé (1901-1984), for his part, worked on industrializing the process of furniture making by creating machines and workshops to produce fair, functional and affordable furniture. By this multidisciplinary spirit, at once engineer, architect and constructor, we present a remarkable shelving system from the 1930s, a rare "Granito" table, a "Présidence" desk and several architectural elements. Throughout his life, Pierre Jeanneret (1896-1967) remained in the shadow of his prominent cousin Le Corbusier. Not very familiar to the general public, he was one of the first to design furniture for Knoll International. Having taken part in the projects of his most important collaborators and friends, Jeanneret characterizes the familial relationships in this avant-garde of design. In this respect, we are presenting the unique five sides table that he designed for the dining room of the Prouvé family in 1943, in France at war. We will also show a unique gaming table, special commission from 1948 and some rare pieces from the city of Chandigarh in India.



Galerie Downtown - François Laffanour specializes in furniture by European and American masters of design - most of them architects - of the 20th century. For the past twenty five years, the gallery has organized thematic and monographic exhibitions on designers such as Jean Prouvé, Charles and Ray Eames, Carlo Mollino and Charlotte Perriand. Shortly after the Second World War, this generation of designers brought a new concept to the art of furnishing, dictated by a need for freedom and functionality - a new « art de vivre » in a time of technological and scientific advances - creating for the first time forms that were pure and without ornament. Galerie Downtown owns and works also with the Galerie Steph Simon archives. Steph Simon was the producer of Charlotte Perriand, Jean Prouvé, Serge Mouille, Georges Jouve as well as Isamu Noguchi furniture, from 1956 to 1974. Since 2004, galerie Downtown has the exclusive rights for the Ron Arad's Furniture in France.

BIENNALE DES ANTIQUAIRES - 10-18 SEPTEMBER 2016
Grand Palais - 3, avenue du Général Eisenhower - 75008 Paris
from Saturday 10th to Sunday 18th september 11am-8pm - Thursday 15th september until 11pm

Press Contact : FAVORI - 233, rue Saint Honoré 75001 - T +33 1 42 71 20 46
Grégoire Marot - Nadia Baniyan nadia@favoriparis.com