



MAZE

**Laffanour | Galerie Downtown
participates in the first edition of MAZE Design Basel
June 16th-17th, 2025**



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In parallel with Art Basel 2025, Laffanour | Galerie Downtown is delighted to announce its participation **in the first edition of MAZE Design Basel**, on 16th and 17th June, in the spectacular setting of the **Offene Kirche Elisabethen**, opposite the Kunsthalle Basel.



The gallery presents a selection of major historical pieces, demonstrating its commitment to 20th century design in its most sculptural and radical dimensions. The exhibition features iconic works by Jean Prouvé, Charlotte Perriand, Le Corbusier, José Zanine Caldas and Vassilakis Takis, five masters whose visionary thinking and experimental approaches continue to shape our view of space and matter.



Charlotte Perriand (1903-1999)

"En Forme" desk

1965

Charlotte Perriand (1903-1999)

Architect and visionary designer Charlotte Perriand left her mark on the 20th century through her commitment to functional, humanist design and her connection with nature.

Designed in 1965, this desk with its curved lines bears witness to her search for harmony between form and use. Going against the grain of modernist orthogonality, the organic design of this desk optimises ergonomics and facilitates a more natural interaction between the user and the workspace. Made from wood, this piece illustrates the maturity of its formal language, in which the material is used to create a free and generous aesthetic.

Jean Prouvé (1901-1984)

Designed in 1950, the Visiteur n°350 armchair embodies Jean Prouvé's vision of a design that is functional, solid and accessible. Made from folded sheet steel and wood, it reflects the industrial aesthetic of Prouvé's work, where each element is designed to meet a specific use.

Designed for offices and other public places, this armchair combines sobriety, comfort and rationality. It illustrates Prouvé's desire to create sustainable furniture, conceived as real architecture on a human scale.



Jean Prouvé (1901-1984)
Visiteur chair N°350
Ca.1950

Vassilakis Takis (1925-2019)
Signal sculpture
1976

Vassilakis Takis (1925-2019)

As a tribute to Vassilakis Takis, the gallery will present one of the first major works produced by the Greek sculptor in Paris. Passionate about the relationship between art and science, Takis explored avant-garde concepts which have had a profound impact on his work. Through his works, Takis explored the notion of movement, energy and light, incorporating natural and technological elements that were considered avant-garde at the time.

Takis's first Signals (1955) are flexible metal rods topped with flashing bulbs, which he sometimes compares to flowers, but also to antennas or radio receivers.

Takis thus dreams of an art which, taking into account the invisible to make it visible by insufflating light, truth, intelligence and energy, "brings euphoria to Humanity."



José Zanine Caldas (1919-2001)

Coffee table
1979

José Zanine Caldas (1919-2001)

Made in 1979, this solid wood coffee table reflects the singular approach of José Zanine Caldas, a self-taught architect and designer recognised as one of the great names in Brazilian design. Inspired by nature and traditional craftsmanship, Zanine has sculpted a piece that is both raw and refined, where every curve seems to follow the organic rhythm of the wood.

Part utilitarian object, part sculptural work, this table embodies an instinctive vision of design, deeply rooted in respect for materials and natural forms. It testifies to Zanine's commitment to rooted art, free from industrial conventions and in direct dialogue with living matter.

About
LAFFANOUR | GALERIE DOWNTOWN



François Laffanour © DePasquale+Maffini

Based in Paris, Laffanour | Galerie Downtown has established itself as a leading name in post-war design, representing such iconic figures as Charlotte Perriand, Jean Prouvé, Pierre Jeanneret and Le Corbusier.

In the aftermath of the Second World War, designers and architects brought a new concept to the art of furnishing, dictated by a need for freedom and efficiency, in the service of a new art of living in an era of technological and scientific development, as well as sociological, demographic and social development.

Laffanour | Galerie Downtown also holds the archives of Galerie Steph Simon, which from 1956 to 1974 represented and published furniture by Charlotte Perriand, Jean Prouvé, Serge Mouille, Georges Jouve and Isamu Noguchi.



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