

### **CHARLES RIVA COLLECTION**

## Third act of the **« LEVEL »** exhibition at **LAFFANOUR | GALERIE DOWNTOWN**

in collaboration with Charles Riva

From October 7<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

18 rue de Seine 75006 Paris



Christopher Wool (B. 1955)
Untitled, 1989

Charlotte Perriand (1903 - 1999) Chaise ombre, 1956

Laffanour | Galerie Downtown is delighted to announce the 3rd edition of the « LEVEL » exhibition, in collaboration with Charles Riva, from **October 7th to 31st , 2025**.

On this occasion, François Laffanour and collector and curator Charles Riva bring together works by international contemporary artists with iconic pieces by 20th century designers.











2/ Charlotte Perriand (1903 - 1999)
Bbliothèque-bahut "taiba". 1963

**3/ José Zanine Caldas (1919 - 2001)** *Table basse, 1978* 

**4/ José Zanine Caldas (1919 - 2001)** *Banquette, 1972* 

**5/ Jean Prouvé (1901 - 1984)**Banc marcoule bleu, Ca. 1956



For the third act of this collaboration initiated in 2023, Laffanour | Galerie Downtown showcases a selection of exceptional pieces, true treasures of  $20^{th}$  century design. Created by Jean Prouvé, Charlotte Perriand, José Zanine Caldas, and Luis Barragán, these artworks embody the craftsmanship and spirit of innovation which have marked the history of modern design.

The famous *Lit double Flavigny* (ca. 1951) illustrates Jean Prouvé's mastery of industrial materials and functional approach. Charlotte Perriand's clean, ergonomic lines reflect her commitment to design for everyday use, while José Zanine Caldas and Luis Barragán offer a forward-thinking vision, combining an architectural approach with raw aesthetics.

This selection highlights the heritage and timeless significance of these works. Invited by the gallery, Charles Riva extends this approach by setting the gallery's iconic pieces alongside emblematic works from the international contemporary art scene.

George Condo, master of "artificial realism", combines oil, pigments, and metallic paint on a single canvas, oscillating between portraiture and abstraction in *Black Channel* (ca. 2016-2017). Richard Prince appropriates images from popular culture in *Three Girlfriends, One with Motorcycle (Gang)* (ca. 1987-1988), revealing the desire and illusion they convey.

Roni Horn, better known for her solid glass sculptures, presents on this occasion, *Untitled ("...he is remembered for a remark he didn't make.")* (ca. 2012-2013), a meditative work on memory and perception: its perfectly smooth volume captures the light and invites silent contemplation. In Chris Ofili's, *Silver Nude One* (2005), gouache, ink, and aluminum are combined in a sensual composition, where the female figure unfolds in an almost lyrical abstraction.

Two photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe, *Untitled (Terry)* (1974) and *Italian Vogue* (1984), bear witness to the evolution of his vision, from intimate and spontaneous Polaroids to the controlled elegance of silver gelatin prints. Finally, Sherrie Levine offers a reflection on the reproduction of images by casting a famous form in bronze, entitled *False God* (2007).







**2/ Roni Horn (B. 1947)**Untitled ("...he is remembered for a remark he didn't make."), Ca. 2012-2013

**3/ Sherrie Levine (B. 1947)** *False God, 2007* 

**4/ Chris Ofili (B. 1968)** *Silver Nude One* 2005

**5/ Richard Prince (B. 1949)**Three Girlfriends, One with Motorcycle (Gang), Ca. 1987-1988













1/ Daniel Richter (B. 1962) Die entspannten Lebern, 2022

2/ Robert Mapplethorpe (1946-1989)

**3/ Charlotte Perriand (1903-1999)** *Banc, Ca. 1985* 

#### About Act II:

The second edition of the « LEVEL » exhibition, in collaboration with Charles Riva, was held at Laffanour | Galerie Downtown from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This collaboration brought together works by Jean Prouvé and Pierre Jeanneret, with contemporary artists such as Paul McCarthy and Christopher Wool.

#### COMING UP // OCTOBER 2025:

Participation in Design Miami. Paris from October 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> at l'Hôtel de Maisons, 75007

"trônes 2" exhibition by downtown+ from October 17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11 rue Las Cases, 75007

# ABOUT LAFFANOUR | GALERIE DOWNTOWN



Charles Riva and François Laffanour ©Laffanour | Galerie Downtown

Since its opening in the early 1980s, Laffanour | Galerie Downtown, created by François Laffanour, explores and showcases  $20^{th}$  century architectural furniture through its exhibitions, helping to rehabilitate and promote the masters of post-war architecture. In the aftermath of World War II, designers and architects brought a new approach to interior design, driven by a need for freedom and efficiency, in line with a new way of life in an era of technological and scientific development, but also sociological, demographic, and social change.

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

