
Laffanour | Galerie Downtown
is pleased to announce its participation in the 27th edition
of **PAD Paris**, which will take place from **April 2nd to 6th, 2025**.



Jardin des Tuileries, 75001 Paris
Booth 01

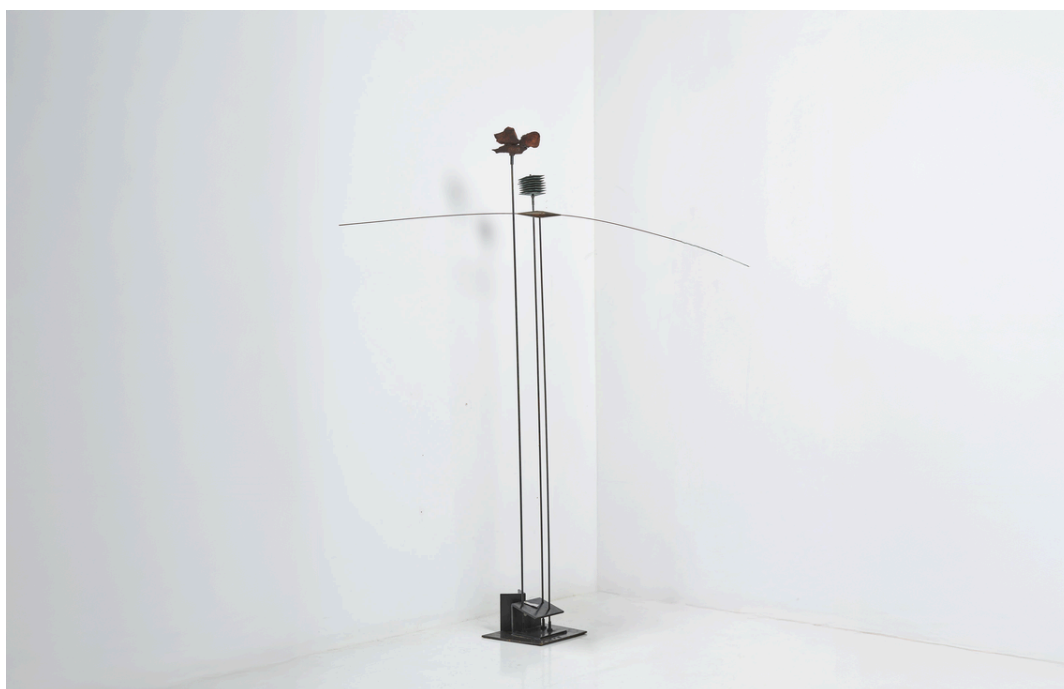


George NAKASHIMA (1905 - 1990)

Set of 8 new chairs
Walnut chairs
Ca. 1952

For the 27th edition of PAD Paris, held from 2 to 6 April 2025, Laffanour | Galerie Downtown will highlight the major figures of modern design with an exceptional selection of iconic pieces by Charlotte Perriand, Jean Prouvé, George Nakashima, Vladimir Kagan, Mathieu Matégot, Choï Byung Hoon, Vassilakis Takis and Roger Capron.

With this presentation, the gallery affirms its commitment to the promotion of modernist heritage and its lasting influence. Each piece embodies the history of design, where tradition meets innovation.



Vassilakis TAKIS (1925 - 2019)

Signal Sculpture, 1976
Metal sculpture with three iron rods topped with ornaments.

VASSILAKIS TAKIS

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."

George Nakashima

A major figure in 20th-century design, George Nakashima embodied a handcrafted and spiritual approach to furniture, where each piece celebrates the natural beauty of wood. Trained in architecture and influenced by both Japanese and American traditions, he developed an organic language that highlights the grain, knots, and irregularities of raw material.

His chairs, exhibited by Laffanour | Gallerie Downtown Paris, reflect this philosophy. Sculpted with artisanal precision, they combine clean lines with traditional joinery, where structure seamlessly blends with material. The wood, carefully selected for its unique character, becomes a living element that shapes the balance and ergonomics of each seat.



George NAKASHIMA (1905 - 1990)

Walnut Chair
Ca. 1952

Mathieu Matégot

Mathieu Matégot holds a unique place in the history of 20th-century design, exploring metal with an innovative and sculptural approach. His material of choice, perforated sheet metal, is folded, rolled, and cut with remarkable lightness, giving rise to airy and dynamic forms.

His chairs and furniture pieces, presented by Laffanour | Gallerie Downtown, showcase this mastery of technique and material. The iconic *Nagasaki* chair, with its floating seat and metal rod structure, is a perfect example—striking a balance between strength and transparency, function and poetry.

Vladimir Kagan

A visionary of organic design, Vladimir Kagan left his mark on the 20th century with his sculptural forms and fluid lines, where elegance meets innovation. Fascinated by movement and ergonomics, he designed seating with sinuous silhouettes that embrace the body and redefine space.

The pieces presented by Laffanour | Galerie Downtown reflect this bold aesthetic. His iconic Serpentine Sofa, with its signature undulating form, exemplifies his approach to design as a true architecture of comfort. By combining bent wood, generous upholstery, and asymmetrical compositions, Kagan created furniture that appears weightless, in constant dialogue with its surroundings.

Jean Prouvé

A key figure in the modernist movement of the 20th century, the architect drew inspiration from metal, particularly steel sheet—stamped, folded, ribbed, and welded. Both his buildings and furniture expose their systems of articulation and assembly, revealing the interplay of forces acting against one another—like the legs of his Standard Chair, designed with "equal resistance" to prevent breaking when rocked. He applied this "constructive principle" to all his furniture designs from 1930 to the mid-1950s, as well as to numerous buildings from that era, built using mass-produced prefabricated elements.

The pieces presented by Laffanour | Galerie Downtown highlight this engineering-driven approach to design, where each element is conceived for its structural relevance and functional suitability.

Roger Capron

An exceptional ceramicist and a key figure in French design, Roger Capron transformed ceramics into a unique decorative and architectural language. Settling in Vallauris in the 1950s, he explored the many facets of this material, creating pieces where terracotta blends with rich textures and stylized patterns.

The tables and objects presented by Laffanour | Galerie Downtown showcase this distinctive approach. With his glazed tiles in warm tones, often adorned with geometric or botanical motifs, Capron infused furniture with an artistic dimension. His compositions, at the intersection of craftsmanship and design, reinterpret traditional techniques to create pieces that are both functional and decorative.

CHARLOTTE PERRIAND

A key figure in modernism, Charlotte Perriand is celebrated for her ability to combine functionality and aesthetics in her designs.

With this piece, Perriand created a piece of furniture that is functional, refined and true to the spirit of modernist design. The Bahut *En forme* embodies the very essence of her innovative and timeless approach to design.



Choi BYUNG HOON

Afterimage 012, 2012

Table with oval top in stained wood resting on two legs, one in white stone, the other in wood.



Charlotte PERRIAND (1903-1999)

En forme sideboard, 1964

A rectangular mahogany 2 front white formica sliding doors based on 2 black legs sideboard

CHOI BYUNG HOON

Choi Byung-Hoon turns a piece of furniture into a real work of art. He is doubly committed, inviting us not only into the world of the utilitarian but also into that of reflection and meditation. These stones, polished over a long period of time, gradually transformed into pebbles, erected with majesty, give off an impression of serenity, tranquility and harmony. The beauty of these long oblong table tops, made of infinitely polished wood, delicately placed on these natural stone bases that seem so solid by contrast, this subtle construction, all in balance, invites reflection, but also to a gentle contemplation, to an infinite tranquility.

By focusing its scenography on museum-quality pieces, Laffanour | Galerie Downtown offers immersion in the world of visionary designers whose creations have shaped the history of modern furniture. Affirming its expertise and commitment to the preservation of twentieth-century design heritage, the gallery invites collectors and enthusiasts to rediscover iconic pieces.

Once again this year, PAD Paris marks a special occasion to celebrate the legacy of these masters of design and admire the lasting impact of their creations on contemporary aesthetics.

Credit: © Galerie Downtown Paris

INFORMATION

PAD Paris

April 2nd-6th, 2025
Jardin des Tuileries, 75001 Paris

Laffanour | Galerie Downtown - Booth 01



Collector's Preview

April 2nd, 2025 : 11am – 9pm

VIP Opening

April 3rd, 2025 : 11am – 9pm

Public Opening

April 4th, 2025 : 11am – 8pm

April 5th, 2025 : 11am – 8pm

April 6th, 2025 : 11am – 6pm

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.



Press Contact - FAVORI

233, rue Saint-Honoré 75001 – T +33 1 42 71 20 46
Grégoire Marot - Caroline Boudehen - Juliette Rebuffie
caroline@favoriparis.com; juliette@favoriparis.com