

A contemporary perspective on a 1955 French interior

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Pierre Guariche, Applique G25 known as "Cerf-volant" (Kite)
Edition Disderot - 1951



Pierre Paulin, *Banquette 118* (*Bench 118*)
Edition Meubles TV - 1953

For PAD London 2015, Galerie Pascal Cuisinier is offering a contemporary perspective on a 1955 French apartment.

After the Second World War, emergency procedures were put in place in France to quickly rehouse a large part of the population, thereby calling on the expertise of Jean Prouvé, Marcel Gascoïn and René Gabriel.

In parallel with this, the latter formed the new generation of interior designers at the prestigious École Nationale des Arts Décoratifs. Having graduated in the early 1950s, the best of them created new types of apartments, representative of a modern lifestyle in keeping with the legendary years of the "glorious thirties".

They redesigned the space, light, and the function of the apartment, it was a source of new lifestyles. They invented modern furniture that was simple and elegant, exceptional lighting and seating, which, thanks to new technical procedures, was to revolutionise the aesthetics and comfort of all seating in the second half of the 20th century.

This is the apartment that will be presented by Galerie Pascal Cuisinier at PAD London 2015, but in its contemporary version, as collectors reinterpret it today.

This will be a lounge/dining room, which was in vogue during this period, whose rooms, designed for mass production, were conceived in order to create a cohesive space, as though it had been made to measure by an interior designer. The lines are simple and light, and the harmonious materials - Elm, lacquered metal, woollen fabrics - with ultra sophisticated proportions. The colours used are neutral and the light is soft, produced from a large number of indirect and reflected sources. It is this minimalism that characterises this style "à la française": refined, restrained and direct.

Pascal Cuisinier has selected from his collection an assortment of pieces representative of the work of the new French designers from the early 1950s

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The exhibition includes a bench by Pierre Paulin which was on the front pages of many of the magazines of the period. The fine chest of drawers 148 by Pierre Guariche, a very rare low table by André Monpoix, which includes the very earliest use of lamination, the famous Saturne armchairs by Geneviève Dangles and Christian DeFrance complete the set.

The famous Alain Richard dining room with one of his most minimalist series and an exceptional extending table in black laminate. The ensemble is lit with some of the rarest lamps of the period, the only large wall lamp with lampshade G12 created by Pierre Guariche, was well as two table lamps G50 and G60.

This extremely chic setting is arranged on a light wood background, in varnished elm, in a muted colour range, scarcely highlighted with a few touches of lacquered metal in black or touches of white on the lamps.



Pierre Guariche, *Lampe G60 (Lamp G60)*
Edition Disderot- 1959



René Jean Caillette, *Table basse (low table)*
Edition Charron groupe 4 - 1954

Galerie Pascal Cuisinier champions the first generation of French designers

Galerie Pascal Cuisinier specializes in the generation of the first French designers. They include **P. Guariche, J.A. Motte, M. Mortier, G. Dangles** and **Ch. DeFrance, A. Philippon** and **J. Lecoq, J. Abraham** and **D. Rol, A. Monpoix, A. Richard, R.J. Caillette**, and **P. Paulin**.

Since 2006, it has championed their creations designed between 1950 and 1961 as well as those of the best French designers and producers of lamps of the period (**P. Disderot, R. Mathieu, J. Biny**).

Mostly born between 1925 and 1930, these **first designers** mainly followed similar studies at the Ecole Nationale des Arts Décoratifs [National School of Decorative Arts] or the Ecole des Arts Appliqués à l'Industrie [School of Arts Applied to Industry]. They shared the same views concerning choices of form and function in their production furniture. Their creations are characterised by their functionality, their technical innovation and the elegance of their design.

Located in the rue de Seine, at the heart of the **Saint-Germain-des-Prés** district, the gallery contributes to the discovery of the avant-garde spirit of these young designers and their importance in the history of French decorative arts.

Its founder, Pascal Cuisinier, devotes very special care to identifying the best creations of this period, selecting them and presenting them to the public, in Paris at his own exhibition space or at the major international exhibition locations such as Design Miami, Design Miami/Basel or PAD London.