

**LAFFANOUR**  
GALERIE DOWNTOWN  
PARIS

DESIGN MIAMI/ BASEL 2014

THE FURNITURE OF JEANNERET  
ALONGSIDE WORKS OF **PERRIAND** AND **PROUVÉ**

FROM 17 - 22 JUNE 2014  
BOOTH G45



Charlotte Perriand (1903-1999)  
Bibliothèque Murale Nuage (wall-mounted bookcase), 1958



Jean Prouvé (1901-1984)  
Bureau Présidence (Presidency desk), circa 1950

After the great succes of the gallery's exhibition of Pierre Jeanneret 's furniture for Chandigarh at TEFAF 2014, **LAFFANOUR - Galerie Downtown / Paris** will exhibit a selection of the architect's pieces with rare furniture by Charlotte Perriand and Jean Prouvé.

Jeanneret, Perriand and Prouvé, figures of the Modern Movement represented by Le Corbusier, left their mark on the history of design and architecture through their unique personality and collaborative projects.

Pierre Jeanneret, a reserved creator, worked with Charlotte Perriand and Jean Prouvé on many projects but often in their shadows, before signing himself Chandigarh's furniture.

Design Miami/ Basel is unquestionably the most cutting-edge collection design fair in the world. On the occasion of this major meeting for international collectors, **LAFFANOUR - Galerie Downtown / Paris** will present the most valuable post-war works of these fellow-designers.

**Design Miami/ Basel**

17 - 22 June 2014

Hall 1 Sud, Messe Basel, Messeplatz

Basel, Switzerland



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François Laffanour  
 Photo : Olivier Deguen.

## FRANCOIS LAFFANOUR

**François Laffanour** was one of the first to identify, collect and reveal Jean Prouvé's work. By the end of the 1970s, many examples of Prouvé's work - originally commissioned by the French state - had been replaced by more contemporary designs and Prouvé's original works found themselves scattered to the four winds. With great foresight, François Laffanour was convinced that in time, Prouvé's work would be given the recognition it deserved. He thus had a clear understanding of the historical significance of Jean Prouvé's furniture designs and therefore the long-term value of preserving and promoting his work, a work which epitomised a spirit of modernity, hope, simplicity and strength. A premonition he also had for Charlotte Perriand to whom he dedicated an unrivalled collection of reference books with the Perriand family. Internationally well-known expert for Perriand's work, François Laffanour is the owner of the archives of the Gallery Steph Simon, Prouvé, Perriand, Le Corbusier and Jeanneret's historical gallery.



### LAFFANOUR - Galerie Downtown / Paris

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[www.galeriedowntown.com](http://www.galeriedowntown.com)

**LAFFANOUR - Galerie Downtown / Paris** exhibits architects' furniture designs, which are now recognized as real collectors' items. For the gallery, this furniture is the product of a debate on the nature of modernity: the attempt to find a balance between the technical and that which is driven by questions of lifestyle - the end goal being to promote something that will be of use to society as a whole. The designs in question stand out for their intellectual rigor, commitment to social change and enthusiasm - we might even say radicalism - possessed as they were of sufficient vision and courage to strike out on new paths. The place of these items of furniture in the history of 20<sup>th</sup> century art must be seen through the spectrum of this period's many social upheavals.

An uncompromising approach to aesthetics is very much the hallmark of LAFFANOUR - Galerie Downtown / Paris, as is vividly illustrated by its spectacular displays in art fairs, its painstaking restoration work and its gallery exhibitions. Exhibitions at the rue de Seine gallery never fail to offer an opportunity to discover the original and the remarkable - testament to the unequalled expertise of LAFFANOUR - Galerie Downtown / Paris. They also invest the collections of furniture and extremely rare pieces on display with a sense of grandeur that goes well beyond their basic function. LAFFANOUR - Galerie Downtown / Paris is the major exhibitor of Charlotte Perriand's work, but it has also helped bring Jean Prouvé's designs to a wider audience. The gallery also features work by designers from the immediate post-1950s period right up to the present-day who are interested in similar creative challenges, such as Ettore Sottsass, Ron Arad and Gaetano Pesce.



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