



The 2nd Sino-French Design Weekend Opens in Shanghai, Headed by the Exhibition “A French Vision for Design: From the 1920s to Today”

French influences are crucial to the international landscape of modern design. Whether it is in fashion, jewelry, architecture, interior design, or industrial design, education, business, and the social environment in France nurture and encourage the development of leading designers. Initiated by the cultural service of The French Consulate General in Shanghai and first launched in 2020, the Sino-French Design Weekend aims to bring together the Chinese and French design communities through design culture. Initiated and presented by the Consulate General of France, the exhibition 《A French Vision for Design: From the 1920s to Today》 will last over 2 months, as the grand opening event leading into the 2nd Sino-French Design Weekend (17th-19th Dec 2021). The exhibition introduces Chinese audiences to French design culture in a profound and concise way, with an emphasis on French furniture and product designers.

Initiated and presented by the French Consulate General in Shanghai, supported by Roche Bobois, and curated by Ms. Mimi Yan, who used to study in France. Ms. Renision, a French designer living and working in Shanghai for years, is responsible for scenography design, while Mr. Yuan Youmin, professor at the China Academy of Art, is responsible for visual design. The exhibition will continue to be open from December 18, 2021 to February 28, 2022 on the third floor of the Roche Bobois Space (No. 88, West Huaihai Road, Shanghai) including a couple of concurrent lectures and seminars.

Focusing on furniture and product design as its central themes, the exhibition will review design philosophies and values and construct a panorama of 21 representative French designers ranging in time from the 1920s to today. It will consist of 64 masterpieces organized in 5 parts: pioneers of the first half of the 20 century - Le Corbusier, Charlotte Perriand, Jean Prouvé and Jean Puiforcat; creator-dreamers - Andrée Putman, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Pierre Charpin and Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance; designers who believed they could change the world - Marc Berthier, Philippe Starck, Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec, and Ora-ïto; outstanding female designers - Matali Crasset, Inga Sempé, Constance Guisset, and Bina Baitel; and Shanghai-based artists who love and respect Chinese culture – Studio MVW, Alexandre Chary, and Thomas Dariel.

A number of designer studios and furniture brands have extended enormous support, without which the exhibition wouldn't be so fruitful. In particular, five pieces of vintage furniture manufactured in the first half of the 20th century were lent by Mr. Zhang Qi, owner of the Hangzhou-based Gallery Sohe. These pieces were designed by the Paris LC Trio, alongside Jean Prouvé. Although some are still among best-selling pieces today, it is quite difficult to see for oneself original works that were crafted by famous designers when they were alive.

Two seminars on design will be held at the exhibition on the afternoon of December 18, 2021, which will serve as supporting activities for the Sino-French Design Weekend and the exhibition. The first will be a lecture by Gallery Sohe owner Mr. Zhang Qi titled "Poetic Modernism," and the second will be a round-table forum themed "Sustainable Cultural Thoughts in Design" co-hosted by Mr. Rapheal Gao, designer and founder of RKOne and Garlic Design, and Dr. Zheng Hong, founder of GREENEXT, and curator Ms. Mimi Yan.

The exhibition seeks to reflect how modern design developed in France and to deliver the message that design and art are alike in that they can speak regardless of countries, languages and cultures.

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设计初心：21位法国设计师群像展

A French Vision for Design: From the 1920s to Today

Une vision française du design: des années 1920 à nos jours

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Culturel Attaché, Consulate General of France in Shanghai

Curator:

Mme. Mimi YAN

Scenography Designer:

Mme. Margo Renisio

Graphic Designer:

Mr. Yuan Youmin

The exhibition was made possible by the support of designers and brands, for which we are very grateful:

The collectors:

Mr. Zhang Qi

Mr. Zhou Yufeng

Designer's studio:

Alexandre Chary Design

Bina Baitel Studio

Constance Guisset Studio

Inga Sempé Studio

Marc Berthier Studio

Maison Dada

matali crasset Studio

Studio MVW

Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance Studio

Ora-ïto Studio

Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec Design

STARCK ®

Studio Putman

Baccarat 巴卡拉水晶

Cassina 卡西纳

Christofle 昆庭

FAS

GALLERY SOHE

HAY

KVADRAT

丽兹家居

Puiforcat 博艺府家

R.L.D.Diffusion

ROCHE BOBOIS 罗奇堡家居

SAINT LOUIS 圣路易水晶

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