

PIERRE PAULIN Pair of armchairs, 1984 Designed for the office of President FRANÇOIS MITTERAND at the Palais de l'Élysée

**DEMISCH DANANT** 



View of the Smoking Room at the Palais de l'Élysée, 1972.

# Demisch Danant at TEFAF 2015

Booth 610 TEFAF Maastricht 2015 March 13-22, 2015 Masstricht, Netherlands

For **TEFAF 2015**, Demisch Danant presents a selection of exceptional works created in France in the 1970s and 1980s. The exhibition includes significant designs conceived by the late Pierre Paulin for two landmark presidential commissions, as well as iconic early works by Maria Pergay and three works by renowned Paris-based American artist Sheila Hicks.

On a 1983 visit to the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, President François Mitterand became fascinated with works designed by **Pierre Paulin** and fabricated by the Mobilier National – objects that expressed the designer's burgeoning interest in traditional materials and woodworking techniques. As a result of the visit, Paulin received a watershed commissioned to create furniture for the Office of the President. Demisch Danant will present three chairs from the Mobilier National series, each of which features palmette marquetry detailing and caned seats. Most significantly, the Demisch Danant exhibition will include an extraordinary pair of rare lacquered armchairs designed for President Mitterand in 1984 and a signed example of the Élysee Bookcase designed for President George Pompidou in 1971. Both are likely the only examples outside the permanent collection of the Mobilier National.

**Maria Pergay** presented her first collection of stainless steel furniture in 1968 and is renowned as a pioneer of the material, one of the first postwar designers to adapt it for domestic furnishings and transform it into a sensual asset. At Maastricht, Demisch Danant will present Pergay's seminal Flying Carpet Daybed (1968), the designer's first entirely stainless steel work and still her most iconic. Additionally, a pair of lounge chairs from 1970 will be presented alongside recent Pergay creations. Among these are the Marquetry Desk (2005) in stainless steel with intricate marquetry detailing and references to the buckle and ribbon motifs that have been present throughout Pergay's prolific career.

Finally, Demisch Danant is proud to present three works by **Sheila Hicks**, including the largescale tapestry Le Palmier (1984-85). Following the traditional weaving techniques of the Aubusson workshops, Le Palmier is a delicate study of swaying palm fronds in a kaleidoscope of colors. Hicks' mastery as a colorist, and her adeptness with composition, are evident in this monumental work. Based on a larger tapestry Hicks created for King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, examples from this edition are also in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the Minneapolis Institute of Art.





View of the Élysée Bookcase in the Smoking Room at the Palais de l'Élysée, 1972.

**Pierre Paulin** Élysée Bookcase, 1971 Smoked Altuglas, steel, wengé base 60.24 x 68.5 x 14.57inches 153 x 174 x 37cm Signed 'Paul'

Officially, one example of this bookcase was produced for President George Pompidou's apartments at the Palais de l'Élysée in 1971 as part of that landmark commission. That example is now in the permanent collection of the Mobilier National.

This bookcase, a smaller version of the example installed at the Palais d'Élysee, was recently discovered and is believed to be the only other example of the Pompidou bookcase. The steel connection parts were fabricated by the Mobilier National workshop (A.R.C.) and the Altuglas elements were fabricated by an independent workshop.







These designs and related works were prototyped by independent craftsmen at the Mobilier National's Atelier de Recherche et de Creation. Originally planned as a series of unique pieces, these models were also produced as a signed and numbered limited edition by Pierre Paulin SARL and then later by Artcurial in 1988 as a signed limited edition. These models and other works from this series were exhibited at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in 1983.

### **Pierre Paulin**

Prestige Chair, 1981 Tinted amaranth with marquetry, caned seat 48.43 H x 22.05 x 16.93 inches 123 H x 56 x 43 cm Limited Edition Pierre Paulin SARL Manufactured by Ségransan Inscribed "Pierre Paulin" and numbered "000" Inscribed "MOBILIER NATIONAL/A.R.C."

### **Pierre Paulin**

Chaise à Palmette, 1981 Lacquered wood, caned seat 35.04 H x 22.44 x 16.93 inches 89 H x 57 x 43 cm Limited Edition Pierre Paulin SARL Manufactured by Ségransan Inscribed "Pierre Paulin" and numbered "005" Inscribed "MOBILIER NATIONAL/A.R.C."

## **Pierre Paulin**

Man's Armchair, 1981 Amaranth wood, caned seat 29.53 H x 21.65 x 17.32 inches 75 H x 55 x 44 cm Limited Edition Pierre Paulin SARL Manufactured by Ségransan Inscribed "Pierre Paulin" and numbered "018" Inscribed "MOBILIER NATIONAL/A.R.C."





Palais de Élysée, Paris, France.

Pierre Paulin Pair of Armchairs, 1984 Lacquered wood, foam, original fabric 32.28 x 29.13 x 32.28inches 82 x 74 x 82cm seat height: 19.3 inches (49 cm) Designed for the office of President François Mitterand at the Palais de l'Élysée. Manufactured by Ségransan for the Mobilier National.

Pierre Paulin was commissioned to design the furniture for the office of President François Mitterand at the Palais de l'Élysée in 1984, following the President's visit to the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in September of 1983. On view was a score of furniture by Paulin that exhibited the designer's interest in 19th century references and traditional woodworking techniques.

The Mobilier National managed the commission and supervised the development of 11 models including a desk, console, coffee table, sofa, and several chairs. These designs displayed multifaceted contemporary forms as well as traditional materials and techniques such as caning, inlays and lacquered wood. Production began in August of 1984 and ended in the first half of 1985.

The ordered furniture was installed in 1988, at the beginning of President Mitterand's second term. Mitterand's office featured gilded wood molding and Paulin's seating and tables were arranged on a Louis XIV Savonnerie carpet. In April 1995, at the end of Mitterand's presidency, all of Paulin's designs for this commission were registered in the collection of the Mobilier National. Mitterand continued to use this set in offices assigned to him by the government on rue Frederic le Play in the VII arrondissement until his death in 1996.





Archival image.

## Maria Pergay

Lit Tapis Volant / Flying Carpet Daybed, 1968 Stainless steel, foam and original fabric 15.75 x 39.76 x 118.11 inches 40 x 101 x 300 cm 30" H without mattress, 15" H at lowest point Mattress size: 9.84 x 31.5 x 77.17 inches 25 x 80 x 196 cm

Pergay presented her first collection of stainless steel furniture at Galerie Maison et Jardin in Paris in May of 1968. The iconic Flying Carpet Daybed was the first piece she created in stainless steel.



Archival image. Apartment of François Perier, Paris.

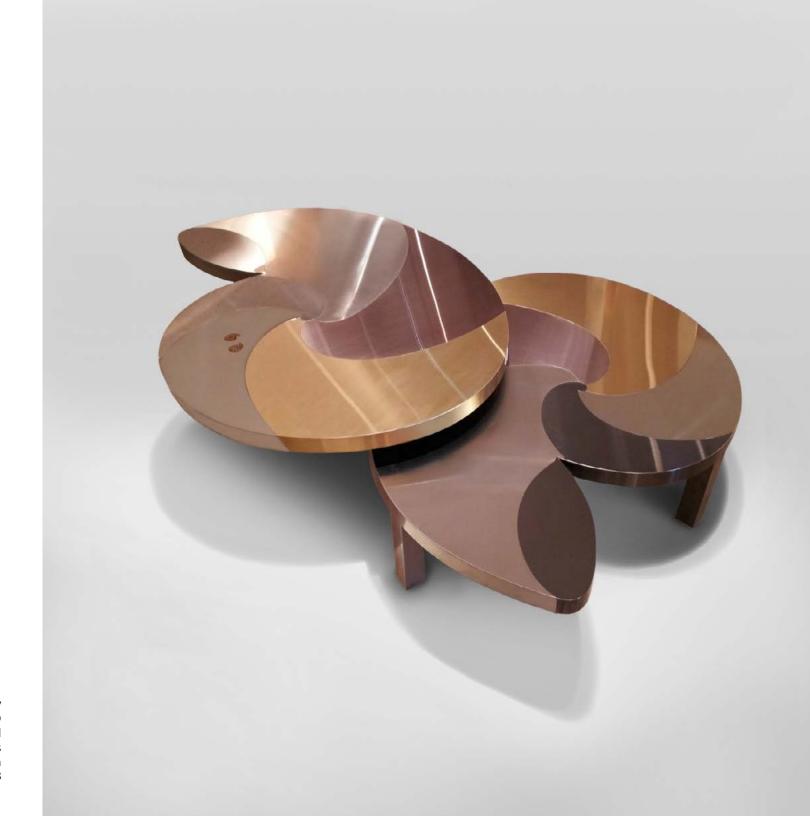


Maria Pergay Pair of Lounge Chairs, 1970 Stainless steel, foam and leather 23.75 x 31.5 x 26 inches 60.35 x 80.01 x 66.04cm





**Maria Pergay** Marquetry Desk, 2005 Stainless steel, brushed steel, macassar, bone, ebony, palm wood 82.68 x 23.62 x 28.5 H inches 72.4 x 210 x 60 h cm Edition 4 of 8



**Maria Pergay** Ammonite Table, 2010 Encrusted ammonite in metal, tinted stainless steel 12.6 x 37.4 x 28.74 inches 32 x 95 x 73 cm Edition 1 of 8



### Sheila Hicks

Le Palmier, 1984-85 Wool, cotton, rayon, silk and linen 108.5 x 143.5inches 275.6 x 364.5cm Edition 2 of 6 Manufactured by Atelier Philippe Hecquet Signed "Sheila Hicks" and numbered on verso

A large version of this tapestry was created for King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and is installed in the main auditorium. Hicks created the original sketches in Saudi Arabia in 1983 and wove the large version in the Atelier Hecquet of Aubusson, France, in 1984 to 1985.

This smaller work was originally a prototype of the King Saud University tapestry that was then made into an edition of 6. Each example was hand-woven by the artist with the help of three assistants in the Atelier Philippe Hecquet, following the traditional weaving methods established at the Aubusson workshops in the early sixteenth century. Examples from this edition are in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the Minneapolis Institute of Art.



**Sheila Hicks** *I Wish I Was a Wave*, 2015 Linen 5.12 x 22.05 x 6.3inches 13 x 56 x 16cm



Sheila Hicks Convergence Ardoise, 1996 Linen 35.43 x 35.43inches 90 x 90cm



## François Arnal

*Gueridon*, c. 1969 Plexiglas, brass 25.75 H x 25.5 x 29.5 inches 65.4 H x 64.8 x 74.9 cm Commissioned by Henri Samuel





Archival image. Private commission, Cannes

**Marc du Plantier** Pair of Lamps, 1970 Plexiglass, enameled metal 84 x 54 x 30cm 33.07 x 21.26 x 11.81 inches Designed for private commission, Cannes



## Marc du Plantier

Chair, 1970 Smoked plexiglass and painted metal structure 31.3 x 19.29 x 17.72inches 79.5 x 49 x 45cm Designed for private commission, Cannes





Archival image. Galerie Lacloche.

## Phillipe Hiquily

Table, 1966 Steel base with glass top Base: 27.56 H x 47.24 x 47.24 inches 70 H x 120 x 120 cm Top: 52 x 40 inches 132 x 102 cm Edition Galerie Lacloche

This model was introduced as part of the exhibition l'Objet 2, presented at the Musée des Arts décoratifs in 1966, organized by Galerie Lacloche in collaboration with the museum. The exhibition was a follow up to the museum's 1962 exhibition Antagonisme 2- L'Objet.



Claude Lalanne Grains de Café Chair, 1965 Steel, brass, leather 32.28 x 15.35 x 15.35 inches 82 x 39 x 39 cm Marked CL 84

In 1965, Claude Lalanne designed her "Grains de Café" side chairs for the office of Olivier de la Baume, Director of Maison du Café, a French coffee company. The chairs accompanied a writing desk and an articulated conference table designed for the same commission by husband François-Xavier Lalanne.

These chairs were produced in 1984 for another commission and were originally part of a set of 12.



Archival image. Residence of the French ambassador to Brazil, reception room, 1975



**Michel Boyer** Brasilia Lamp (Large), 1974 Black lacquered steel, fabric shade 43.31 x 15.75 x 15.75inches 110 x 40 x 40cm Edition Verre Lumière Designed for the residence of the French Ambassador to Brazil.



César

Autoportrait de Plomb, 1984/1966 Bronze with brown patina 19.29 x 8.27 x 8.27inches 49 x 21 x 21cm AP 1 Edition of 8 + 4 AP



**Lynn Chadwick** *Girl II*, 1971 Bronze. 39.5 cm; 15.5 inches Edition 1 of 6 Stamped "Chadwick 71 628"



Lynn Chadwick Girl IV, 1971 Bronze. 31.8 cm; 12.5 inches Edition 1 of 6 Stamped "Chadwick 71 633"



Lynn Chadwick Girl VII, 1975 Bronze. 38.7 cm; 15.25 inches Edition 2 of 8 Stamped "C 75 692"

# **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

**Pierre Paulin** (1927-2009) is perhaps best known for his innovative designs for Artifort of the 1960s- the famed Mushroom Chair (1959), the Ribbon Chair (1965) and the Tongue Chair (1968). He is widely regarded as one of the most significant designers of the 20th century. Though he was clearly influenced by his German roots as well as the work of early modernists, Paulin has said he was greatly inspired by the work of George Nelson and Charles Eames and the significance of the social component of modern design. In 1970, Paulin was invited by the Mobilier National to decorate the private apartments of George Pompidou in the Palais de l'Elysee, and to furnish the office of Francois Mitterand in 1984. Today, Paulin's designs are found in the collections of major museums across the world such as MoMA in New York, the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris, and London's Victoria and Albert Museum.

Born in Moldavia, **Maria Pergay** (b. 1930) opened her first shop in the Place des Vosges in 1960 and designed small objects in silver and special pieces on commission for fashion houses including Christian Dior and Jacques Heim. In 1968, Maria Pergay presented her first collection of stainless steel furniture at Galerie Maison et Jardin, including the now-iconic Flying Carpet Daybed (1968) and Wave Bench (1968). This seminal exhibition established Pergay as one of the most innovative French furniture designers of her time, a visionary who almost singlehandedly transformed stainless steel from a commercial industrial material into a principal component of modern furniture. Pergay has exhibited internationally and has embarked upon significant commissions for Pierre Cardin, The World Trade Center in Brussels, the Royal Family of Saudi Arabia, and other esteemed clients. In her 84th year, after a half-century of creation, Pergay continues to surprise both herself and her collectors.

Born in Hastings, Nebraska in 1934, **Sheila Hicks** has lived and worked in Paris since 1964. After studying fine art at Yale under the tutelage of Josef Albers, Sheila Hicks established herself as one of the most innovative textile artists of the 20th century. Hicks is renowned for her painterly approach to textile design and an ability to craft environments through the unlikely medium of fiber. She has collaborated with prominent architects including Luis Barragán, Ricardo Legorreta and SOM. Her work defies categorization, simultaneously addressing several related mediums including painting, sculpture, design and installation. Hicks' work is included in such collections as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Centre George Pompidou, Paris; and the Art Institute of Chicago. A solo exhibition at the Hayward Gallery in London and a large-scale installation at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris are currently on view.

# **ABOUT DEMISCH DANANT**

Demisch Danant was founded in 2005 by Suzanne Demisch and Stephane Danant. The gallery specializes in twentieth century French design with an emphasis on the late 1950s through the 1970s and represents the work of Maria Pergay, Pierre Paulin, Joseph André Motte, Pierre Guariche, Michel Boyer, Philippon & Lecoq and René Jean Caillette. Curated exhibitions on historical work are presented within environments that reference architecture and interiors of the era.

The gallery also features exhibitions concerning the intersection of architecture, design and art, including the work of Sheila Hicks, Felice Varini and Krijn de Koning. Demisch Danant is dedicated to research and scholarship on French design and has published and authored monographs including, *Antoine Philippon and Jacqueline Lecoq* and *Maria Pergay: Complete Works 1957-2010*. Current projects include a comprehensive monograph on seminal designer Joseph André Motte.

The gallery is open to the public Monday through Friday, 10AM to 6PM, and on Saturday from 12PM to 6PM. Additional information about the gallery and its programs is available online at www.demischdanant.com