DEMISCH DANANT



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DEMISCH DANANT CONTINUES ITS EXPLORATION OF PATHBREAKING FRENCH DESIGN OF THE 1970s WITH A VISIT TO *27 RUE DE GRENELLE*

27 Rue de Grenelle

November 12 – 16, 2015 The Salon Art + Design Booth A11 Park Avenue Armory, New York

New York...Demisch Danant is pleased to announce *27 Rue de Grenelle*, the latest exhibition in its ongoing, critically admired series devoted to postwar French design and the pioneering figures of the 1960s and 1970s whose innovations continue to shape taste today.

From November 12-16 2015, 27 Rue de Grenelle will fill the gallery's stand (A11) at The Salon Art + Design at the Park Avenue Armory, New York. Curated by Stephane Danant, the exhibition brings together exceptional furniture and lighting by Francois Arnal, Michel Boyer, Jean Dives, Jacques Grange, Pierre Paulin, and Maria Pergay, with drawings and wall sculptures by César, the internationally celebrated French artist and founding member of the Nouveaux Réalistes. The show takes its title from the quintessential Left Bank street that is the address of some of the most discretely luxurious residences in Europe, homes where design and art mingle in a uniquely French approach to interiors. Rue de Grenelle was also once home to César, whose rise to fame paralleled the emergence of American Pop Art.

Styled as a Parisian apartment, *27 Rue de Grenelle* suggests the atmosphere of eclectic sophistication that would have enveloped visitors to the domain of a discerning Paris collector of the 1970s. Here one finds Jean Dives'

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César. Compression murale, Circa 1975 Tow on panel in Plexiglas box 122 x 99.5 x 20 cm; 33.5 x 26 x 6 inches

elegantly spartan Desk (1971) and René Jean Caillette's rare leather and molded plywood *Sofa* settee (1966) accompanied by an array of Pierre Paulin's various upholstered Pacha chairs (1975), Michel Boyer's sensual curving glass and bronze Screen Lamp (1975), and the suggestively tangled metal skeins of César's 1970 *Untitled* compression sculpture. Such distinctive juxtapositions of relaxed sensuality and high refinement are definitive elements of French style that intensified in the 1970s, when designers and artists experimented avidly with such new materials as Plexiglas, industrial plastics, and other unexpected mediums. Similarly, bold pairings of art and design - the beguiling visual puns that reverberate between such objects as artist Philippe Hiquily's 1966 glass and steel Table and the legs of the centaurs in César's charcoals -- have always characterized the defining French appreciation for the applied arts as the true peer of fine art.

Among other highlights of *27 Rue de Grenelle* are Pierre Paulin's *Élysee Bookcase* (1971); Francois Arnal's Plexiglas *Elice Console* (1968), commissioned by legendary decorator and international tastemaker Henri Samuel for his own apartment; and Maria

Pergay's *Pair of Lounge Chairs* (1970), in which broad ribbons of steel become meditations on the unlikely allure and domestic potentials of a material previously associated with machinery. In these and other works, *27 Rue de Grenelle* celebrates the mélanges of design and art, concerted innovation and respect for classic geometries that are defining elements of postwar French style.

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, Krijn de Koning.

Demisch Danant is dedicated to research and scholarship on French design and has authored and published 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.

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