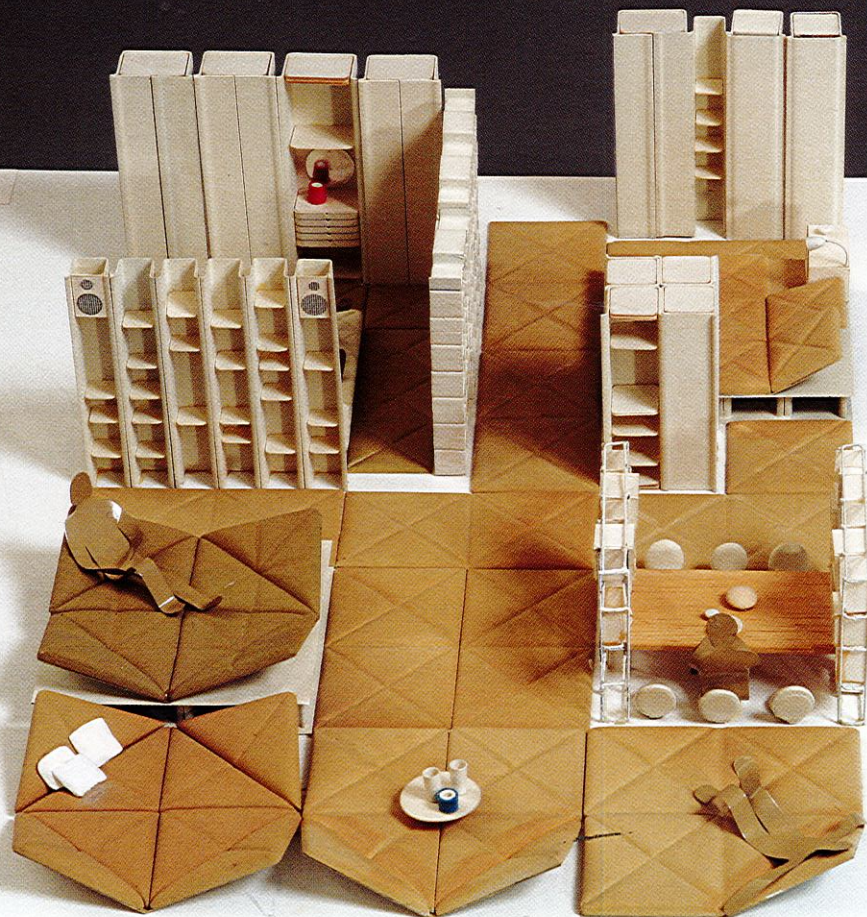


THE UTOPIA

THE CENTRE GEORGES POMPIDOU PRESENTS A PIERRE PAULIN RETROSPECTIVE

After rediscovering the major architects and designers of the 1950s, including Charlotte Perriand, Jean Prouvé, Le Corbusier, and Pierre Jeanneret, let's skip ten years forward to check out the French designers of the 1960s, some of whom are just now finding their place in museums. Such as Pierre Paulin, who is finally getting a retrospective at the Centre Georges Pompidou – better late than never! On display here is the full breadth of Pierre Paulin's oeuvre, though many of us know him mainly for iconic pieces like the Tongue Chair, the Mushroom Chair and the mythical Ribbon Chair. In addition, Paulin is also known for his interior design of the Pompidou family's presidential apartments in the Elysée Palace. Beaubourg offers a comprehensive take on Paulin's work, stretching from the 1950s to the 1980s, when his work took on a raw, minimalist, and less futuristic aspect. Visitors learn that Pierre Paulin navigated his way through different eras and styles, while always maintaining the integrity of his message. Human interaction represents Paulin's central concern, as he felt that interior design can transform family and social relationships. Thus his mind-blowing residential project commissioned by Herman Miller in 1972, "Playing with Shapes," designed across seven levels, with each floor conceived as a fully modular environment structured not by walls, but by furniture. Alas, this project never saw the light of day and only the models, of heartbreaking fragility, are featured in the exhibit.* *ARMELLE LETURCQ*

**SOME OF THE FURNITURE WAS PRODUCED FORTY YEARS LATER IN 2014 BY LOUIS VUITTON.*



- 1. PIERRE PAULIN – INTERIOR DESIGN MODEL N°4, 1970, METAL, PLASTER, PLASTIC, WOOD, AND CARDBOARD
PURCHASED IN 2003 © PIERRE PAULIN – © COLL. CENTRE POMPIDOU, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MODERN ART / PHOTO JEAN-CLAUDE PLANCHET
- 2. PIERRE PAULIN – LIVINGROOM MAISON JALOU, 1952 - 1954 – GIFT OF MAÍA, DOMINIQUE, FABRICE AND BENJAMIN PAULIN, 2015
© PIERRE PAULIN – © COLL. CENTRE POMPIDOU, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MODERN ART / PHOTO GEORGES MEGUERDITCHIAN
- 3. PIERRE PAULIN – STUDY FOR THE TONGUE CHAIR AND ROSACE TABLE, CIRCA 1963, INK AND COLLAGE ON TRACING PAPER – GIFT OF MAÍA, DOMINIQUE, FABRICE AND BENJAMIN PAULIN, 2015
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PIERRE PAULIN EXHIBITION, CENTRE GEORGES POMPIDOU - MAY, 11 - AUGUST, 22 2016

