

18.10.2025 — 22.10.2025

Opening 17.10.2025 starting 6PM

downtown+ trônes 2

11 rue Las Cases, 75007 PARIS



trônes 2

trônes 2 extends the exploration initiated in 2023, an edition in collaboration with Romain Bitton. This new edition continues to question the notion of the 'throne' through a selection of sculptural seats and contemporary works that evoke moments of power, creation, leisure, and intimacy.

This second edition features pieces from the downtown+ collections, alongside creations from the emerging collectible design scene.

Each object becomes a work in itself, accompanied by a narrative that situates it within a story, a memory, or a personal reflection.

With trônes 2, we pursue the desacralization of the ‘throne’, transforming it into a space of dialogue between past and present, between the object and the history it embodies.

For the occasion, emblematic pieces by Gaetano Pesce, Andrea Branzi, Archizoom, Superstudio, and Paolo Pallucco will be presented in dialogue with contemporary works by Leo Orta, Wendy Andreu, and many others, as well as paintings by Miranda Webster.



Featuring late 20th century
and contemporary pieces



Superstudio (1966–1982)

Grand ‘Bazaar’
1969-70

The Pratt Chair by Gaetano Pesce (1984) was conceived during the Italian designer’s residency at the Pratt Institute in New York, where he had access to laboratories and tools that allowed him to experiment with industrial materials. Starting from an initial wax model, Pesce developed a mold into which resin of varying densities was manually poured, giving rise to an innovative series of unique chairs. Each piece reveals the material’s inherent unpredictability: vivid chromatic drips, sinuous patterns, and fluid deformations make every chair unrepeatable.

Bearing the inscription NEW YORK and dated 1984 at its base, this Pratt Chair embodies Pesce’s radical vision: asserting individuality at the very core of mass production.



Gaetano Pesce (1939–2024)

‘Pratt’ chair
1984



Andrea Branzi (1938–2023)

"Animali Domestici" bench
1985

The Animali Domestici bench was designed by Andrea Branzi for Zabro in 1985 in Milan. In the 1980s, Andrea Branzi created Domestic Animals, a distinctive collection that explores a neo-primitive aesthetic where nature and artificiality converge. Conceived together with Nicoletta Branzi, the project unveils a series of “creature objects” made of raw tree elements integrated into sleek, minimalist, grey extensions of tables, chairs, and benches.

This piece consists of a white lacquered wooden bench with a birch backrest.

Leo Orta (B. 1993)

‘Electric wave chair’
2020



downtown+

Created in 2023 by Galerie Downtown and Luna Laffanour, downtown+ brings together pieces from the gallery's collection and works by creators from the emerging contemporary scene.

Internationally recognized for its exhibitions on Prouvé, Perriand, and Jeanneret, Galerie Downtown has consistently showcased and collected the work of 20th-century architects while also collaborating with contemporary designers.

Over the decades, this heritage has been carefully acquired and preserved. Today, Luna Laffanour seeks to explore it anew by placing it in dialogue with works by emerging contemporary creators. From this vision was born, in 2023, the new department downtown+. Through a cycle of both physical and digital exhibitions, Luna Laffanour offers a fresh perspective on these multiple collections, where art and design intertwine.

In 2023 and 2024, downtown+ has redefined the boundaries between art and design through a bold and visionary program.

The inaugural exhibition trônes in May 2023 made a lasting impression with sculptural pieces presented in an intimate Parisian setting. In December, the online sale metalloids celebrated the aesthetics of metal, combining innovation and rarity in an exclusively digital format.

In 2024, downtown+ illuminated major design events: a scenography by Luna Laffanour at COLLECTIBLE Brussels, a vibrant tribute to Gaetano Pesce at PAD Paris, and three ambitious projects at Design Miami Basel exploring Japan, Bob Wilson, and Pesce's emblematic works.

In September, the sale ceramics revealed a dialogue between tradition and modernity, while in October, the exhibition italia at the Hôtel de l'Industrie brought together masters of Italian design and the vibrant paintings of Nicolas Mehdipour.

In 2025, downtown+ returned to PAD Paris, from April 2 to 6, with a scenography by Luna Laffanour highlighting the iconic works of Andrea Branzi. It offered an immersion into a poetic universe where design, architecture, and poetry converge, and where each object becomes a reflection on space and matter.

With upcoming projects both physical and digital—such as trônes 2—downtown+ continues to challenge the conventions of design, presenting bold and unexpected exhibitions that fuse art and functionality, redefining the contemporary and vintage design landscape.

During these recent events, downtown+ has showcased the work of designers and artists such as:

Charlotte Perriand

Jean Prouvé

Ettore Sottsass

Gaetano Pesce

Pierre Paulin

Ron Arad

Pucci De Rossi

Gino Sarfatti

Philippe Starck

Mathieu Matégot

Superstudio

Joe Colombo

Andrea Branzi

Jun'ya Ishigami

Sori Yanagi

Tokujin Yoshioka

Leo Orta

Bob Wilson

Tim Wilson

Zyva Studio & Sam Buckle

Theodore Psychoyos

Aleksandr Delev

Sam Chermayeff

Nicolas Mehdipour

Featuring late 20th century
and contemporary pieces



downtown+ ‘trônes’
Exhibition
© downtown+



downtown+ ‘italia’
Exhibition
© Ayka Lux



PAD Paris 2025
Fair
© Ivan Erofeev — downtown+

Design.Miami Basel 2024
Fair
© downtown+



trônes

The first downtown+ exhibition, trônes, presented in June 2023, in collaboration with Romain Bitton, featured a selection of sculptural seats from the 1950s to today, alongside a series of paintings dedicated to the theme of seating. The exhibition highlighted diverse forms of thrones: seats for eating, conversing, ruling, relieving oneself, lounging, or creating.

These objects—majestic yet functional, sacred or utilitarian—stood out for their sculptural form, their history, and their singular character. An unexpected dialogue emerged among the pieces: chairs by Charlotte Perriand sat alongside those of Ishigami, the creations of Léo Orta intertwined with a bench by Fouillen, while the seats of Ellen Pong and Aleksandr Delev accompanied a sofa by Hoi Chan Kwok.



















Luna Laffanour

Born in 1996, Luna Laffanour grew up within a Franco-Japanese culture through her parents, gallerist François Laffanour and artist Yumiko Seki. With a personality shaped by her passions—for aesthetics, creativity, and the arts—she first studied at the University of the Arts London, then at École Camondo, graduating in 2020 in Interior Architecture and Design, before completing a program in Cultural Goods and Activities Management at ESCP.

In 2021, she joined Galerie Downtown, founded in 1982 by François Laffanour, which over the decades has gained worldwide recognition for its exhibitions of Jean Prouvé, Charlotte Perriand, and Pierre Jeanneret.

For Luna, the temptation to continue the Downtown adventure felt natural, as did the desire to emancipate herself, distinguish her path, and invent anew. She believes in interdisciplinarity and exchange, a conviction undoubtedly rooted in her bicultural heritage.

In 2023, Galerie Downtown—already contemporary and forward-looking—was reinvented with the creation of a new department, downtown+, initiated by Luna Laffanour. She now stands at the forefront of this project, bringing a fresh perspective to the gallery’s heritage through a cycle of both physical and digital exhibitions, where design and contemporary art converge.



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