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Jean Prouvé Architecture Exhibition at Galerie Patrick Seguin London

By Cyril Foiret



From October 4th to January 21st Galerie Patrick Seguin London is pleased to present an exhibition devoted to one of the best architect of all time, **Jean Prouvé** and his famous demountable architecture. This exhibition focuses on 12 different demountable architecture works: the Bouqueval School (1949) adapted by Jean Nouvel, the Ferembal House (1948) adapted by Jean Nouvel, the Design Office from the Ateliers Jean Prouvé (1948), the 6×6 and 6×9 meter Houses (1944) intended as temporary housing after the war, the 6×6 House (1944) adapted by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, the 8×8 House (1945), the “all wood” F 8×8 BCC (1942) created with Pierre Jeanneret, the Temporary School of Villejuif (1957), the House of Better Days (1956) designed for the anti-poverty crusader Abbé Pierre, the Métropole Aluminum House (1949) and the Total Filling Station (1969).





About Jean Prouvé

Jean Prouvé (1901–1984) was a twentieth-century pioneer in the innovative production of furniture and architecture. Son of one of the founders of the Ecole de Nancy and godchild of Emile Gallé, he was imbued with the creative philosophy of a group whose principal aim was an art/industry alliance offering access to all. Determined to be a man of his time, Prouvé explored all the current technical resources in metalworking, soon abandoning wrought iron for bent sheet steel: beginning in the thirties he produced metal joinery, his early furniture, architectural components and knockdown buildings, all in small series.

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Of the opinion that “in their construction there is no difference between a piece of furniture and a house”, he developed a “constructional philosophy” based on functionality and rational fabrication. Free of all artifice, the resulting aesthetic chimed with the doctrine of the Union of Modern Artists, of which Prouvé? –with Le Corbusier, Pierre Jeanneret and Charlotte Perriand– was a founding member.

Jean Prouvé? contributed considerably to the reconstruction and urbanization of France after the war. Always a true entrepreneur, he was able to break away from traditional means of construction while giving priority to experience over profitability. The Prouvé? blend of avant-garde spirit and humanist concerns has lost none of its relevance today.



Jean Prouvé, 8x8 Demountable House, 1945



Jean Prouvé, F BCC 8x8 Demountable House, 1942
(with Pierre Jeanneret)



Jean Prouvé, Temporary School of Villejuif, 1957



Jean Prouvé, Total Filling Station, 1969



Jean Prouvé, House of Better Days, 1956



Jean Prouvé, Metropole House, 1949



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