

The Jewish Museum to Present First U.S. Exhibition Devoted to Legendary French Designer and Architect Pierre Chareau

Jewish Museum

New York, NY – In November 2016, the Jewish Museum will present the first U.S. exhibition focused on French designer and architect Pierre Chareau (1883–1950). Showcasing rare furniture, light fixtures, and interiors, as well as designs for important projects in Europe and America, including the famous Maison de Verre in Paris and the Robert Motherwell House in East Hampton, Long Island, the exhibition will bring together rarely-seen works from major public and private collections around the world. *Pierre Chareau: Modern Architecture and Design* will be on view from November 4, 2016 – March 26, 2017.

Pierre Chareau rose from modest beginnings in Bordeaux to become one of the most sought after designers in France. Creating custom furniture and interiors for an elite clientele that included leading figures of the French-Jewish intelligentsia, Chareau uniquely balanced the opulence of traditional French decorative arts with the clean lines and industrial materials of Modernism. Through his highly distinctive artistic language, Chareau established himself at the intersection of tradition and innovation, becoming a major figure in 20th century design. The exhibition at the Jewish Museum will place Chareau in the context of the interwar period in Paris, highlighting his circle of influential patrons, engagement with the period's foremost artists, and designs for the film industry. The architect's active patronage of the arts—and his collection of paintings, sculptures, and drawings by significant artists such as Lipchitz, Mondrian, Chagall, and Modigliani—will be another important aspect of *Pierre Chareau: Modern Architecture and Design* at the Jewish Museum.

The exhibition will also explore the enduring consequences of Chareau's flight from Nazi persecution, the dispersal of many of his pieces during and after World War II, and his attempts to rebuild his career while in exile in New York during the 1940s.

Pierre Chareau: Modern Architecture and Design is one of several major design exhibitions at the Jewish Museum this year, following *Isaac Mizrahi: An Unruly History* (through August 9) and *Roberto Burle Marx: Brazilian Modernist* (on view May 6 – September 18). "Design exhibitions are central to the Jewish Museum's program, reflecting the range of our collection as well as the diversity of art and Jewish culture," said Claudia Gould, Helen Goldsmith Menschel Director. "We are also incorporating a contemporary perspective by commissioning new work and collaborating with leading architects, designers, and artists to enliven these exhibitions, creating dynamic experiences for our visitors."

Pierre Chareau: Modern Architecture and Design is organized by the Jewish Museum in collaboration with The Centre Pompidou. The exhibition is organized by Esther da Costa Meyer, Professor, History of Modern Architecture, Princeton University. Exhibition design by Diller Scofidio + Renfro.

Support

Pierre Chareau: Modern Architecture and Design is made possible by The Jerome L. Greene Foundation.

Additional support is provided by The Peter Jay Sharp Exhibition Fund, Tracey and Robert Pruzan, Susan and Benjamin Winter, The Grand Marnier Foundation, Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis, the Leon Levy Foundation, and Bloomberg Philanthropies.

The publication is made possible in part by endowment funds from the Dorot Foundation and funds from the Barr Ferree Foundation Fund for Publications, Department of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University.

The Jewish Museum gives special thanks to the Cultural Services of the French Embassy.

About Diller Scofidio + Renfro

Diller Scofidio + Renfro integrates architecture, the visual arts, and the performing arts. Founding Partners Diller and Scofidio are recipients of the MacArthur Foundation "Genius" award. DS+R's architectural work includes The High Line and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts renovation and expansion in New York City; The Broad in Los Angeles; and the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston. The studio's independent works have been exhibited at leading cultural institutions around the globe, including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Venice Biennale; the Swiss National Exposition; Palais De Tokyo in Paris; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Whitney Museum in New York.

About the Jewish Museum

Located on Museum Mile at Fifth Avenue and 92nd Street, the Jewish Museum is one of the world's preeminent institutions devoted to exploring art and Jewish culture from ancient to contemporary, offering intellectually engaging, educational, and provocative exhibitions and programs for people of all ages and backgrounds. The Museum was established in 1904, when Judge Mayer Sulzberger donated 26 ceremonial objects to The Jewish Theological Seminary as the core of a museum collection. Today, the Museum maintains a collection of over 30,000 works of art, artifacts, and broadcast media reflecting global Jewish identity, and presents a diverse schedule of internationally acclaimed temporary exhibitions.

The Jewish Museum is located at 1109 Fifth Avenue at 92nd Street, New York City. Museum hours are Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, 11am to 5:45pm; Thursday, 11am to 8pm; and Friday, 11am to 4pm. Museum admission is \$15.00 for adults, \$12.00 for senior citizens, \$7.50 for students, free for visitors 18 and under and Jewish Museum members. Admission is Pay What You Wish on Thursdays from 5pm to 8pm and free on Saturdays. For information on the Jewish Museum, the public may call 212.423.3200 or visit the website at TheJewishMuseum.org.

#

5/2/16

Press contacts:

Anne Scher, Molly Kurzius, or Alex Wittenberg

The Jewish Museum

212.423.3271 or pressoffice@thejm.org



Andrea Schwan
Andrea Schwan Inc.
917.371.5023 or andrea@andreaschwan.com

