

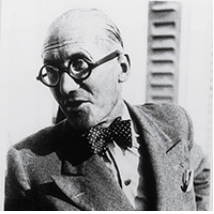
Cassina in collaboration with Richard Ginori and the Le Corbusier Foundation

Cassina takes its inspiration from the genius of Le Corbusier for a collection of three trays in pure, unglazed porcelain. These trays borrow some of the bas-relief symbols chosen for the walls of the buildings of Chandigarh, the city designed in the 1950s and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The same procedure can be seen in Marseille in the Unité d'Habitation on the sculptures moulées, symbolic designs embedded by Le Corbusier in the concrete – béton brut – taken from his figurative portfolio. Each tray, made by Richard Ginori, includes a design sketched by the Master in 1956: the open hand symbolising peace (square tray with rounded corners), the fish (round tray), the movement of the sun (rectangular tray).

### Gallery



## Designer



**Le Corbusier**

Charles-Edouard Jeanneret, known as Le Corbusier, was born at La Chaux-de-Fonds, in the Swiss Jura, in 1887; he died in France, at Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, on the French Côte d'Azur, in 1965.

Early in his career his work met with some resistance owing to its alleged «revolutionary» nature and the radical look it acquired from its «purist» experiments; in time, however, it won the recognition it deserved and it is still widely admired. His message is still being assimilated by an ever increasing number of people in the profession, but his far-out avant-garde attitudes should be interpreted with due consideration for the use of rational systems in his planning method, evidenced by extremely simple modules and formes based on the functional logic.

«Functionalism tending not so much to an exaltation of the mechanical function at the expense of the symbolic, as to the rejection of symbol that he now considers outmoded and insignificant and the restoration of the practical function as a symbol of new values»<sup>(1)</sup>

In his activities as town-planner, architect and designer, his method of research continued to develop, at times going to the opposite extremes of a rich plastic idiom.

Instances of this are:

Unité d'Habitation, Marseille (1946-52);

the Chapel at Ronchamp (1950-55);

the Dominican Monastery «La Tourette» (1951-56);

the Centre of Zurich (1964-65)

the Hospital in Venice (1965).

Much the same commitment will be found in the furniture of the Equipement intérieur de l'habitation (tables, chairs, armchairs, sofas) designed for the Salon d'Automne, 1928, with Pierre Jeanneret and Charlotte Perriand and "Casiers Standard", system of container units designed for the Pavillon of the Esprit Nouveau, 1925, with Pierre Jeanneret.

Cassina reposes this furniture considered "up-to-date"; its clear and essential "form" is highly adaptable to change in time and in environment, constantly providing new significance.

<sup>(1)</sup> G.C.Argan, *Arte Figurativa* in the *Enciclopedia Universale dell'arte*, vol. 1, col. 760

<http://www.fondationlecorbusier.fr/>