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Tel: +1 212 645 1111
Email: ussales@accartbooks.com
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René Gabriel

Des arts décoratifs à la Reconstruction

René Gencey

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- The discovery of several thousand of his drawings allows us to fully understand the scope of the work of this singular creator who was interested in all everyday objects

A forerunner of design, René Gabriel (1899-1950) established himself as a decorative artist in most of the salons and international exhibitions of the interwar period. The discovery of several thousand of his drawings, kept at the National School of Decorative Arts in Paris where he taught, allows us to fully understand the scope of the work of this singular creator who was interested in all everyday objects: furniture, wallpaper, fabric, crockery, rugs, but also architecture, illustration, scenography, advertising … Adept of wood, this fervent defender of furniture for all distinguished himself at the time of the Reconstruction by inventing many models for disaster victims and forging close links with industry. This commitment earned him wide recognition, crowned by the René-Gabriel Prize which will reward some of the greatest French designers, such as Marcel Gascoin, Pierre Guariche and Michel Boyer.

Text in French.

Pierre Gencey, specialist in Reconstruction and the 1950s, was in charge of programming the Perret model apartment in Le Havre. He is the author of numerous articles and books, including *Jacques Hitier* and *Marcel Gascoin* published by Éditions Piqpoq.

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