

Gerrit Rietveld – The Revolution of Space

17 May – 16 September 2012

The Dutchman Gerrit Rietveld (1888-1964) was one of the most important designers and architects of the 20th century. Trained as a cabinetmaker, he became associated early on with de Stijl, the movement centred around Theo van Doesburg and Piet Mondrian, and created two world-famous icons: the Red Blue Chair (1918/1923) and the Schröder House (1924). His primary artistic goal was to find new forms of expression for planes, lines and volumes. Until the end of the 1930s, Rietveld experimented with a wide variety of materials such as laminated wood and aluminium, using them to create ever new and surprising furniture variations, including the legendary Zig-Zag Chair (1932). After 1945 Rietveld was mainly active as an architect, designing such prestigious buildings as the Dutch Pavilion on the grounds of the Venice Biennale.

The exhibition at the Vitra Design Museum is the first major retrospective on Gerrit Rietveld to be presented to the German-speaking public in a long time. It offers a comprehensive overview of his oeuvre and includes comparative works by contemporaries such as Piet Mondrian, Theo van Doesburg, Le Corbusier and Marcel Breuer.

Opening times: Mon – Sun: 10 am– 6 pm

Guided tours:

Public tours: Sat and Sun: 11 am

Tours for children: Every 2nd Sunday of the month: 11 am - 1 pm