

## EXHIBITIONS

### LE SIGNE TAKES THE DIMENSION OF GRAPHIC DESIGN

After having focused on illustration with Chemin Papier, le Signe is pursuing its exploration of the different territories of graphic design with two new exhibitions this autumn, from books to architecture.

The first exhibition staged on the first floor displays Pierre Faucheux's abundant work, as a great art director of Livre de Poche whose book covers bedeck all the bookshelves of France. The second one fills the 600m<sup>2</sup> of the ground floor, space needed to present five spectacular installations by Richard Niessen, baroque and colourful constructions that this Dutch artist well known to Chaumont has assembled using his posters and many other creations.

### *PIERRE FAUCHEUX* Espaces de lecture, lectures d'espaces

Exhibition from november 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018  
to january 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019



Sample of works by Pierre Faucheux

This exhibition is the opportunity to discover the work of one of the great figures in French publishing of the second half of the 20th century. The two million book covers and mock-ups that he made for the Club français du Livre as of 1946, and twenty years later for Livre de Poche, have left their marks on generations of readers thanks to the cutting edge processes used such as his famous surrealist quartering.

The exhibition highlights an all too unknown aspect of Pierre Faucheux's work, his interest for urban planning and architecture. Through successful collaborations such as the development of the ski resort of les Arcs with the designer Charlotte Perriand in 1967 or his contribution to surrealist exhibitions from 1959 to 1965, the designer developed a unique reflexion on space: that of books, their covers, and also the physical space of buildings and interiors.

Echoing the Salon du Livre of Chaumont, « Pierre Faucheux » celebrates the book as an object and lets us dive into the creative process of the designer who described himself as a « book architect » and « space writer ».

# BUILDING SITE

## Five installations by Richard Niessen

Exhibition from november 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018  
to february 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019



*A Hermetic Compendium  
of Typographic Masonry, 2014*

The graphic designer Richard Niessen, who has been awarded two prizes by the International Poster and Graphic Design Festival of Chaumont

(2013 and 2017) has, over the last decade, been developing a working method of assembling and combining graphic elements that he calls "typographic masonry", an allusion to the virtuous use by the guilds of signs and symbols as a secret language. The exhibition allows us to understand this guiding line of the Dutch designer's work through five monumental installations pushing the traditional boundaries of graphic design.

The first one, already presented at the Chapelle des Jésuites in Chaumont in 2007, brings together 150 posters, each of which is a "typographic brick" of the façades of an imaginary town composed of eight districts. In the second installation that looks like a giant mikado, created in 2014, Richard Niessen turns the first one on its head: the 26 posters used burst out of their frame, spread out and are then left in a floating balance, embroached and manhandled. Three unreleased installations complete the first two ones and pursue this work of staging his creations using playful and immersive devices: a new approach to discovering posters!

## Practical information



## Le Signe



Public opening of the exhibitions on  
Thursday November, 22<sup>nd</sup> at 18 o'clock.

*An installation by Richard Niessen  
will be accessible to the public in preview  
FROM OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup> TO NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2018*

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Opened from Wednesday to Sunday from 14 to 18 o'clock. For guided visits, workshops etc. open upon reservation 7 days/7:

[reservation@centrenationaldugraphisme.fr](mailto:reservation@centrenationaldugraphisme.fr)

Access to the exhibitions, the café and the coworking space ( free wifi) is free and free of charge.

## MEDIA CONTACT

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