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**PRESS RELEASE**

**ROBERT MALLET-STEVENS  
ARCHITECT 1886-1945**

**27 APRIL - 29 AUGUST 2005**

GALLERY 2, LEVEL 6

Centre Pompidou

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with  
**Aurélien Lemonier**

**For the first time in France, the Centre Pompidou will devote a major retrospective to the French architect Robert Mallet-Stevens (1886-1945) for the first time in France. This wide-ranging, four-month exhibition will reveal to the general public Robert Mallet-Stevens' considerable body of work as architect, decorator, and teacher. Original drawings, photographic prints, architectural maquettes, film extracts, as well as a selection of his major pieces of furniture testify to the exceptional universe of this emblematic figure of between-the-wars French architecture.**

**Several of Mallet-Stevens's major architectural achievements are well known include: the Noailles villa in Hyères, the Paris street bearing his name, and the Cavois villa in Croix near Lille. Of Mallet-Stevens the decorator, his store windows for Bally and Le Café du Brésil in Paris are also well known; as a film-lover, we know of his collaboration with Marcel L'Herbier; and of his engagement in Modernism, his role at the heart of U.A.M (Union of Modern Artists).**

**The works of Robert Mallet-Stevens are abundant and varied. His buildings, located in**

## USEFUL INFORMATION

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### Hours

Exhibition open 11 am to 9 pm  
every day except Tuesday

### Admission

#### «un jour au Centre» day pass

10 euros, reduced fee : 8 euros

One day pass valid for the  
Musée national d'art moderne  
and all exhibitions

#### exhibition fee

7 euros, reduced fee : 5 euros

#### Free admission

for Centre members

with the annual pass

Information 01 44 78 14 63

To print the "Un jour au centre"  
day pass at home

[www.centrepompidou.fr](http://www.centrepompidou.fr)

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or near Paris and throughout France, are numerous, as are his unfinished projects. Interior design prevails over simple furniture design, exemplified stores as well as boat cabins, hotels, private homes, sitting rooms., and his filmography as a decorator. Controversial teacher, but nevertheless the respected director of a School of Fine Arts later on, spokesman for the members of de Stijl, as well as founder of the Union of the Modern Artists, Mallet-Stevens was an essential participant to the exhibitions of 1925 and 1937.

Having disappeared at the dawn of post-war reconstruction, without leaving a body of theoretical work, or even assuring the future conservation of his archives, – he deserves to have his work reevaluated in a scientific manner, and shown to a large audience.

## THE EXHIBITION

The totality of Mallet-Stevens's work will be presented in chronological order via the exceptional bringing together of existing original drawings, a considerable group of original photographic prints, architectural maquettes produced for this occasion, the projection of extracts of films for which he designed the interiors, as well as a selection of his major of furniture pieces. Among the leading names of modern architecture in France, Mallet-Stevens has been, up until now, considered in various ways. The exhibition and the catalogue intend to return give him to his true place, that of a significant and outstanding professional. The greater part of his finished work is concentrated in barely 10 years; however, it is important both in its volume and its quality. The inventory of his published writings is quite a bit significantly larger than what was originally believed, as is the reception to his work in foreign journals. His very important participation in the Exposition exhibition of 1937 does not make up for his contributions in contests and great projects of the 1930s. The projection of large format photographs and video images, will give the visitor the feeling of virtually entering his buildings, in addition he'll be able to take note of the state of these works. Projects that to this day had not seen the light of day, underrated collaborations, and new documentation give to his work a new scope.

## PUBLICATION

**Robert Mallet-Stevens, the complete works. Collection *Classiques du XXe siècle*.**

Under the direction of Olivier Cinquandre, with Aurélien Lemonnier

Format 28 x 28 cm, 240 pages, 400 illustrations, black and white and color. 39,90 €.

ISBN 2 84426 270 8

This is the first scientific publication devoted to Robert Mallet-Stevens, presenting his work in an exhaustive fashion. The catalogue is comprised of a series of essays leading to a renewed analysis of our knowledge of this architect, restoring him as a great professional. Issues relating to his education and initial influences are evaluated, as well as his film set design, architectural composition, construction techniques, furniture and its integration in interior design, professional strategy, client networks, and decoration as a leavening agent for collaboration.

Notes and images are on the one hand unknown, and on the other never before been subject to such a reunion. The authors of the work are specialists in Robert Mallet-Stevens, who have been involved for a long time in the research and conservation of his works, as well as young historians proposing new ways to bring light to the subject.