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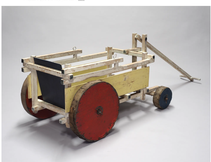
A 1920s beach buggy is among our favourite finds at TEFAF 2026

Dina Comino modern furniture by Gerrit Rietveld, Osvaldo Borsani and Zaha Hadid at TEFAF Maastricht 2026

BY ISABELLE TAMMARO PUBLISHED 9 APRIL 2026 IN NEWS



Gerrit Rietveld's Steenbergen on Sand Buggy, estimated to date to the second half of the 1920s, and priced at just over €200,000 *Image credit: Galerie Van den Bosch*

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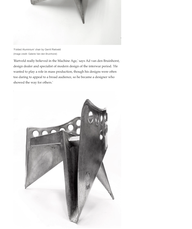
PRINTED: (The European Fine Art Foundation) returns to Maastricht from 16 to 22 March 2026, and your 1990s Federal Abatemarc chair by Gerrit Rietveld (1988-1994) will be sure to catch your eye. Presented by Galerie Van den Bosch, the Dutch achiever and maker's chair represents his interest in experimental and organoleptic furniture for mass production.



Federal Abatemarc chair by Gerrit Rietveld
Image credit: Galerie Van den Bosch

Rietveld really believed in the Modernist Age, says Ad van den Bosbloem, the gallery's director and curator of modern and contemporary design. He wanted to play a role in mass production. Bosch this designer more often was daring to appeal to a broad audience, so he became a designer who showed the way for others.

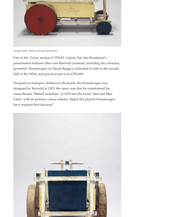


Image credit: Galerie Van den Bosch

The Federal Abatemarc chair captures this innovative spirit: constructed from a single sheet of aluminium, strengthened with a formal pattern of holes. Never seeking to hide the tubular nature of its steel legs, the chair was produced in a limited edition of 1,000 with a price tag of just over €10,000.

More specialised, yet equally avant-garde, is the Steenbergen of the chair, which was sketched by Rietveld on the back of an envelope from 1920 (textually marked 'Ovaalvormig Strandrijtuig' in the archives of Van Nieuwes Instituut in Rotterdam. The four 'feet' versions include one early prototype dating to 1962-3, and then made by Rietveld and his son in the early 1960s for the University of Delft's collection.

TEFAF find: Gerrit Rietveld's colourful Steenbergen

Image credit: Galerie Van den Bosch

Part of the 'Fauve' section of TEFAF, Galerie Van den Bosbloem's presentation of Rietveld's Steenbergen on Sand Buggy, sketched in 1920, generously Steenbergen on Sand Buggy, estimated to date to the second half of the 1920s, and priced at just over €200,000.

Designed in transport children to the beach, the Steenbergen was designed by Rietveld in 1925, the same year that he transitioned his manufacturer Metzel Zwerkhuis' at 1918 into the iconic 'Red and Blue Chair' with its primary colour scheme. Might this playful Steenbergen have inspired that decision?

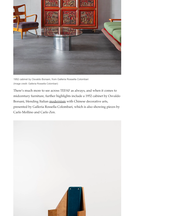


Image credit: Courtesy Galerie Van den Bosch

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This example is one of four surviving Steenbergens, and only around seven or eight are known to have ever been made. Before the Second World War, Rietveld made furniture for people he knew and for the houses he designed, so the numbers of these pieces are very low, says Van den Bosbloem.

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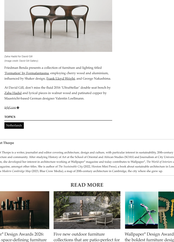
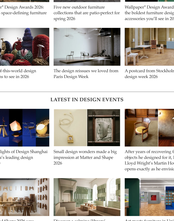


A 1970 piece of the first series of chair designer, a Dina Comino Rietveld, by Dina Comino
Image credit: Courtesy Galerie Van den Bosbloem

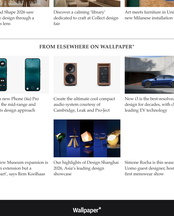
This example has been owned for all this time by one family, who passed it on to the current owner's grandfather, who purchased it from the 1970s, capturing an incredible social portrait of the 70s. It is rarely experienced a piece so well documented, remarks Van den Bosbloem 'Pieces that have proof of good provenance and a good story are the most valuable.'

More TEFAF: discover midcentury and architect-designed furniture



1962, sketched by Osvaldo Borsani, from Galerie Formerly Committee
Image credit: Courtesy Galerie Jacques Lacoste

There's much more to see across TEFAF in photo, and when it comes to midcentury furniture, further highlights include a 1962 cabinet by Osvaldo Borsani, Wendling Nolen modelmaker with Florence decorative arts, presented by Galerie Rencelle Lichtenbel, which is also showing pieces by Carlo Mollino and Carlo Ponti.



Chair by Zaha Hadid for Vitra Design
Image credit: Marco Cappelletti Studio, courtesy Vitra and Vitra Design

Fitzsimon Studio presents a collection of furniture and lighting titled Alternative to Modernism, with Zaha Hadid's early experimental furniture, architectural UK Marker design, Jonathan Ellery and George Kalamian.

At Maastricht, don't miss the Hall 2026 Tribute, double sculpture by Zaha Hadid and lyrical photos or outdoor wood and patinated copper by Maastricht-based German designer Valentin Loellmann.

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Harriet Thorpe
Harriet Thorpe is a writer, journalist and editor covering architecture, design and culture, with particular interest in sustainability. Dilettantish about everything, she has written for Wallpaper*, Dezeen, Monocle, Financial Times, Bloomberg, Sunday Times, Telegraph, Guardian and more. In London, she developed the interior & architecture writing at Wallpaper* magazine and today contributes to Wallpaper*. The Wind of Freedom and Iron magazine, amongst other titles. She is author of The Sustainable City (2022), Harriet Mint Pence's book about sustainable architecture in London, and the Hunter's Cambridge (May 2026) Blue Lion Studio's study of 20th century architecture in Cambridge, the city where she grew up.

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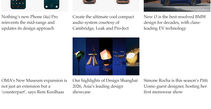

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