



Jean Tschumi Designer

27.02 – 26.04.2026

The mudac inaugurates its new exhibition space, *Le Carré*, with *Jean Tschumi Designer*. This exhibition, created in collaboration with **Vaudoise Insurance**, focuses on a specific aspect of the great Swiss architect's work: his furniture design for *Le Cèdre*, the headquarters of **Vaudoise Assurances** in Lausanne.

With the headquarters of Vaudoise Assurances in Lausanne, Jean Tschumi created a true architectural masterpiece. His design, both rigorous and subtly nuanced, aspired to transparency, lightness and openness. It is a *Gesamtkunstwerk* – a total work of art – in which architecture, art and design come together to form an ensemble of rare harmony and exceptional quality.

As part of the restoration of this iconic building, Vaudoise Assurances entrusted the Swiss design studio BIG-GAME with the task of reissuing the furniture Tschumi originally designed specifically for the site. The *Jean Tschumi Designer* exhibition showcases these re-editions – armless armchairs, a round marble and iron table, an office chair and a small side table – produced by the renowned Swiss furniture manufacturer Girsberger (founded in 1889), alongside the original pieces carefully preserved by Vaudoise Assurances.

These ensembles are accompanied by extensive documentation (photographs, films, archival material) tracing the genesis of the project and the designer's thought process.

Period archives place the furniture back in its original context, while contemporary documents shed light on the challenges involved in their re-edition: adapting them to current production methods, material and aesthetic requirements, as well as contemporary standards.



North façade of *Le Cèdre* © Archives de la Vaudoise Assurances, Lausanne. Photo : Agence de Jongh

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Curators	Jolanthe Kugler Nathalie Bender
Scientific collaborator	Diane Maechler Luisa Ferreira
Scientific advisor	Catherine Othenin-Girard
Exhibition design	Magali Conus Timo Walther
Graphic design	Notter + Vigne



Executive office with a small table designed by Jean Tschumi (original) and three armchairs by designer Harry Bertoia (original). On the wall: model created by Charles-Oscar Chollet for the 1955–1956 art competition for the building. Project not selected and kept by Vaudoise.
© Archives de la Vaudoise Assurances, Lausanne.



Office of the Managing Director with wall-mounted bookcase and conference table with metal-framed chairs designed by Jean Tschumi.
© Archives de la Vaudoise Assurances, Lausanne.

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Since the construction of its headquarters by modernist architect Jean Tschumi in 1956, Vaudoise Assurances has cultivated a close relationship between architecture, art, and institutional identity. This vision, still very much alive today, has shaped a living heritage that accompanies the company's evolution.

Designed by Jean Tschumi, the Vaudoise headquarters exemplifies a holistic approach in which the building, furniture, colours, and artworks form a harmonised whole - a true expression of corporate architecture. This philosophy has been sustained through the Artistic Commission, active since 1955, which continues to enrich the collection by supporting contemporary creation while enhancing the company's architectural and artistic heritage.

Recent renovation works have revived the site's original spirit, notably through the restoration of clocks, drinking fountains, mural paintings, and sculptures. Within this context, several emblematic pieces of furniture designed by Jean Tschumi have been reissued in collaboration with the Swiss design studio BIG-GAME and the company Girsberger. Faithful to its tradition of openness to art, Vaudoise also integrates contemporary works, extending the dialogue between past and present.

The reissue of these long-lost pieces of furniture was first grounded in meticulous research, during which we cross-referenced the information contained in the available drawings, plans, and photographs, and verified it with great care. Our aim was to adopt the most faithful method possible, in order to reproduce these pieces using contemporary techniques while strictly respecting Jean Tschumi's original designs.

— BIG-GAME

Our main challenge was to translate, with absolute precision, the spirit of Jean Tschumi's original drawings into a contemporary realisation. Working alongside BIG-GAME and Vaudoise, we transformed this meticulous research into a material expression that is both accurate and faithful to the history of the site and the initial expression of its furniture.

— Girsberger SA, Customized Furniture

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Le Carré, mudac's new exhibition space, covers roughly 90 m². It offers the museum greater flexibility, allowing it, beyond its large-scale exhibitions that require lengthy preparation, to respond swiftly to current themes, to showcase works from its collection, to host external projects or to develop more intimate formats.

Designed as a genuine laboratory for experimentation, Le Carré enables mudac to take a stand on contemporary issues while continuing its research work on the *Archives du Design Romand*. The *Jean Tschumi Designer* exhibition thus opens a new chapter in the history of mudac.



mudac-Photo Elysée building. © Elsa Mesot

Exhibition opening

Thursday 26 February 2026

Tickets options

Visitors are invited to take advantage of the "1 ticket-3 museums" offer to visit all the exhibitions at Plateforme 10. Valid for 3 months.

- Full price: CHF 25
- Reduced price: CHF 19
- Duo (visit for two): CHF 38
- Free for under-26s

Free admission on the first Saturday of the month

Media contact

Sylvie Rottmeier

Head of Marketing - Communication

T +41 21 318 43 59

E presse.mudac@plateforme10.ch

Press

Press release and press images available for download at the address:
mudac.ch/presse

Main partners for the construction



mudac

musée cantonal de design et d'arts appliqués contemporains
Plateforme 10, Quartier des arts
Place de la Gare 17, CH – 1003 Lausanne

+ 41 21 318 44 00

mudac.ch

mudac@plateforme10.ch

@mudaclausanne
#mudaclausanne

Opening hours

Monday	10 h – 18 h
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10 h – 18 h
Thursday	10 h – 20 h
Friday	10 h – 18 h
Saturday	10 h – 18 h
Sunday	10 h – 18 h

Cover visual
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