

Celebrating a Century of De Stijl At Home in a Modernist Masterpiece



The Van Doesburg House recently acquired three Functionals products - the [Wendela chair](#), [Lloyd table](#) and [Lloyd bench](#). The modernist landmark, located in a suburb of Paris, is the only architectural work of Theo Van Doesburg (1883-1931), the Dutch artist, designer, critic, and writer who co-founded the De Stijl art movement and was its greatest ambassador. We are proud to be in residence.

Owned by the Dutch State since 1980, the house is managed by the Van Doesburg House Foundation. The current board chair is Benno Tempel, director of the Gemeentemuseum in The Hague. Tempel is an expert on De Stijl and first encountered the house as a student. He remembers being awestruck: "It is a magnificent building. It is amazingly well designed, offering a surprising amount of space and functionality within a small footprint."

In addition to preserving the house, the foundation also makes the home available to Dutch artists and scholars. After all, Van Doesburg designed it as combination home and studio. Since 1980, the house has hosted over 30 residencies. Participants have included painters, poets, dancers, designers, writers, historians, language specialists, photographers, architects, and composers.

100th Anniversary De Stijl

The year 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of De Stijl. In 1917, Van Doesburg, Piet Mondrian, and other artists began publishing the journal *De Stijl* (*The Style*) to promote their new aesthetic. The centennial will be celebrated with major exhibitions around the world, including three at the Gemeentemuseum. The Van Doesburg House will mark the occasion with a series of mini-residencies.

In preparation, the foundation recently completed several renovation projects for the house, including refurbishing the interior with new Dutch contemporary furniture. The foundation honored Functionals by requesting several pieces: the Lloyd table and bench and several of our Wendela chairs.

The Resident's Perspective

Beja Tjeerdsma has resided in the Van Doesburg house for the past two years, serving as its manager while the foundation prepares for the centennial. She is also an artist and finds living in the house inspiring:

“I love how Van Doesburg designed the building to be so multifunctional for living and working, with sliding doors that change the spaces dramatically. It can adapt to your needs. And it has such a contemporary look and feel that visitors are often surprised to hear that the house was constructed nearly a century ago. It is so interesting to show the house to the newest generation of architects and designers. It really is a treasure.”

Tjeerdsma views Functionals as the perfect fit for the house. “I love the size of the Lloyd table, she says. “It’s quite long, so it’s great for a meeting of six to eight people. It also works well as a dining or working surface.” As for the molded Wendela chairs, “they are very comfortable” and “can go anywhere.” She also appreciates that the seat reveals a line where the two halves of the mold met. “It shows how the chair was made. Nothing is hidden.” This detail is reminiscent of De Stijl, says Tempel. De Stijl valued “honesty,” showing “construction methods rather than hiding everything behind decoration.”



The Art Expert's Perspective

Our overall aesthetic is very much aligned with Theo Van Doesburg’s philosophy. We believe in the importance and beauty of the line, use of unexpected materials, and applying a limited palette of colors. Like Van Doesburg and his colleagues, our designers employ thoughtful approach to problem solving, thinking carefully about how a piece of furniture might “add to the living experience,” as Tempel puts it.

Concludes Tempel, the addition of the Functionals pieces provides an important insight into the continuity of Dutch creativity. “Having Functionals furniture on hand connects a De Stijl house with contemporary Dutch design.” Our work demonstrates the lasting influence of De Stijl. In fact, you can say that it is in our DNA.





-END-

About Functionals

Functionals offers a collection of furniture and home goods designed exclusively by some of the most innovative contemporary designers. Functionals mission is to showcase design that answers needs, delights the eye, and stands the test of time. The products are made to last, so they are made well. Functionals also believes in going above and beyond the usual expectations. Functionals is founded in 2009 by the two siblings Ad & Simon. www.functionals.eu

For more information, high res images and lend out please contact:

Functionals

PR: Madelief

Edisonstraat 5

NL-5051 DS GOIRLE

Tel. +31 (0)13-530 03 89

Mob. +31 (0)6-14 21 04 88

pr@functionals.eu

<http://www.functionals.eu>