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Iconic and Whimsical 20th-Century Chairs

Chairs: we sit in them all day, but how often do we stop to admire them? In the Swiss Institute's inaugural edition of its design series, architect Andreas Angelidakis curates a selection of 20th-century chairs. Arranged in a theatrical display, complete with low-tech lighting effects, wooden crates, other stylistic props, the chairs—which include standouts by Marcel Breuer, Pierre Jeanneret, and Gaetano Pesce—are given an otherworldly, anthropomorphic energy. Click through the slideshow to see some of the standout chairs on view.



The exhibition features seating that spans decades. Pictured from left are Le Corbusier, Pierre Jeanneret, and Charlotte Perriand's Chaise longue á réglage continu (1928), Peter Shire's Bel Air chair (1982), and Nacho Carbonell's One Man Chair (2009)