**SERGE MOUILLE**

(1922- 1988, France)

Serge Mouille was born in Paris in 1922. At the age of 13 he was admitted to the École des Arts Appliqués in the goldworking and sculpture workshop of Gabriel Lacroix. After taking his diploma he worked as a designer in the studios of goldsmith Henin, where he stayed until the Liberation. In 1945 he decided to work on his own as an artisan and designer for French and international design studios.

After meeting artists and designers in the Paris *milieu*, he began to be interested in new areas of artistic creation: from decoration to furniture design, architecture and lighting. His research ventured into the areas of metals, engraving and sculpture.

He made his first light in 1952, on the request of Jacques Adnet, director of the Compagnie des Arts Français, a three-armed model followed by the *Série noire*, composed of a light fixture, office lighting, wall-mounted lights, freestanding lights and other models.

A year later he exhibited his works at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris. They met with success immediately and Steph Simon Gallery distributed Serge Mouille’s production alongside names of the calibre of Jean Prouvé, Charlotte Perriand, Noguchi and Luce.

In 1958 he participated in the Exposition Universelle in Brussels, where he received a Diploma of Honour. Four years later he presented a new line of models including "Signal" and "Totem".

Mouille refused to produce his light fixtures industrially as he loved artistic craftsmanship. In 1964 he stopped working and began to teach at the [École des Arts Appliqués](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=%C3%89cole_des_Arts_Appliqu%C3%A9s&action=edit&redlink=1) in Paris.

In 1988 he was appointed Cavalier of Arts and Letters. He died in the same year.