

Maison de Verre

a photographic retrospective by Michael Carapetian, 1966

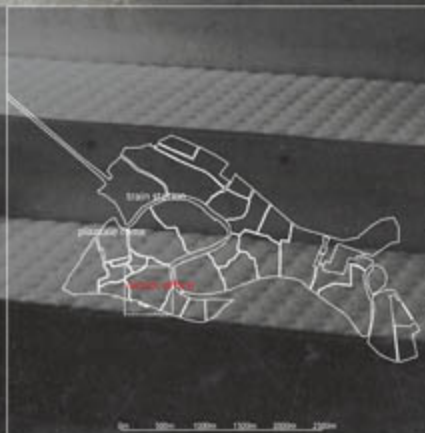
“Carapetian's beautiful photos capture the Parisian culture of the Maison de Verre when the original clients were still alive. These photos register the cultural density of the house, when it was still in their ownership. In this regard, one might speak of Carapetian's photos as having a unique patina.”

Kenneth Frampton, 2009

28.08.10 > 14.11.10

10:00 > 18:00
entrance fee €6 / €4

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The photographs in exhibition were taken by Michael Carapetian in 1966 when jointly with Kenneth Frampton and Robert Vickery, the three surveyed Maison de Verre, Pierre Chareau's masterpiece. Before then, the house was little known – if at all – to the world of architecture.

Today, Maison de Verre is an icon of contemporary architecture. Chareau's house is probably among the first residential buildings of the twentieth century to adopt, or perhaps better say invent, the industrial aesthetics, which starting with Paxton's Crystal Palace and much later with Roger's and Piano's Pompidou Centre, more and more became the symbol of modernity and 'high-tech'.

In the past years Maison de Verre has been published several times, we can even find it on tourist guides of Paris. Yet as Frampton writes of these photographs, Carapetian captures that sense of life a house possesses only when its owners are living in it. In fact, these photographs – on exhibition for the first time ever – are to be considered, telling the story of a unique moment of the life of Maison de Verre.

Le fotografie esposte, furono realizzate da Michael Carapetian nel 1966, quando con Kenneth Frampton e Robert Vickery fu eseguito un rilievo di Maison de Verre, capolavoro di Pierre Chareau. Prima di questo, la casa era poco conosciuta - se non per niente - al mondo dell'architettura.

Oggi, Maison de Verre è un'icona per l'architettura contemporanea. L'opera di Chareau è probabilmente uno dei primi edifici residenziali del ventesimo secolo ad adottare, o forse meglio dire inventare, un'estetica industriale, simbolo della modernità e dell'high-tech, della quale il Crystal Palace di Paxton ed il Pompidou Centre di Roger e Piano sono alcuni dei principali esempi.

Negli ultimi anni Maison de Verre è stata più volte pubblicata, la si incontra anche nelle guide turistiche di Parigi. Ma come Frampton ha scritto di queste fotografie, Carapetian è riuscito a catturare la "patina" presente nella casa, quando i committenti vi abitavano. Infatti, queste fotografie - per la prima volta esposte al pubblico - sono da considerarsi un racconto di un momento unico della vita di Maison de Verre.

Venice, August 2010

Maison de Verre, a photographic retrospective by Michael Carapetian 1966

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Opening hours: every day from 10:00 to 18:00

Entry: Full fair €6, reduced €4 (students)

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