PARIS DESIGN WEEK, the global event for design lovers in Paris is turning over a new leaf for a surprising 8th edition, from 6 to 15 September 2018!

Held every September, PARIS DESIGN WEEK has become the leading non-professional design event in just eight years. Overlapping with the professional trade fair MAISON&OBJET, PARIS DESIGN WEEK brings together all aficionados of design, interiors and urban lifestyle, from 6 to 15 September.

This year, a wind of change is blowing over the 8th edition of PARIS DESIGN WEEK: Part of the event, the springboard exhibition Le Off is making a few changes and moving to Ground Control: a creative and experimental living space, unique in Paris.

Echoing MAISON&OBJET’s theme ‘Virtuous’, the theme for the upcoming Rado Star Prize France contest ‘Design Inspired by Nature’ will invite young designers to explore notions like sustainability and material durability.
On the programme this year:

8 themed itineraries to offer a variety of perspectives and inspire a larger number of people:

- **Art & Design**: Where objects become sculptures and art becomes functional.
- **Fashion**: Where design is fashionable and fashion takes its cue from design.
- **Food**: Attention, foodies! Yummy design concepts coming right up!
- **Upcycling**: How does design give materials a second chance?
- **Japonisme**: An itinerary that explores the essence of Japanese culture through design.
- **Projets**: A dedicated itinerary for interior architects and designers.
- **Savoir-Faire**: The most valuable know-how behind the most extraordinary designs.
- **Iconic Design**: Design has its icons and design icons have their shops.

More than 200 participating venues – design showrooms, shops, galleries, ateliers, restaurants, hotels, museums and other cultural institutions – will join together to celebrate the diversity of approaches in design with exhibitions, temporary installations and new product launches.

The four most vibrant design districts in Paris will be abuzz with celebration: Saint-Germain-des-Prés, Les Halles-Marais-Bastille, Opéra-Concorde-Etoile et Barbès-Stalingrad.

Five opening nights will be held successively in one of the various districts, offering visitors a chance to discover or rediscover these places where trends are made, mingle with MAISON&OBJET’s professional community and meet the leading names in French and international design.

**Saint Germain**: Thursday 6 September 2018  
**Marais/Bastille**: Saturday 8 September 2018  
**Opéra/Etoile/Concorde**: Monday 10 September 2018  
**Barbès/Stalingrad**: Tuesday 11 September 2018
Le Off: The Springboard Exhibition Relocates!

From Thursday 6 to Sunday 9 September at Ground Control, the springboard exhibition Le Off will spotlight forty of the most promising designers of their generation. Talents from all over the world will be there to share with visitors their unique prototypes and collections. Additionally, the Talks, presented by Chantal Hamaide, Editorial Director of Intramuros magazine, will feature discussions with the most influential figures in design.

Demonstrating once more their ambition to support the design community, PARIS DESIGN WEEK and MAISON&OBJET invite more established designers to show their work at the heart of MAISON&OBJET, with a stage entirely dedicated to former Rising Talents and Rado Star Prize winners.

2018 Rado Star Prize France Contest

PARIS DESIGN WEEK and avant-garde Swiss watchmaker Rado renew their partnership for the sixth year in a row. This year again, Rado will be organising the Rado Star Prize France contest to promote the work of promising young designers, by offering them a chance to present their designs.

Echoing MAISON&OBJET’s theme ‘Virtuous’, the Rado Star Prize contest will explore the theme ‘Design Inspired by Nature’. A cross-discipline and equivocal theme, inviting participants to research materials, textures and shapes inspired by the realm of Nature. It is also a call to reflect on material durability, as a way to connect generations, achieve sustainability, create emotions, fight planned obsolescence and raise awareness on alternative consumption patterns.

Ten finalists and one winner for the Rado Star Prize will be chosen by a jury of French and international design professionals. The winner will be presented with a €5,000 prize and a Rado True Thinline Nature watch. The finalists will see their work showcased at Le Off, from 6 to 9 September 2018, as part of the Rado exhibition. Visitors will also have the chance to vote for their favourite project – the winner will receive a Public Award and a Rado watch.
A Prestigious Jury for the Rado Star Prize

Every year, a Jury of prominent figures from the design world is in charge of picking the winner of the Rado Star Prize contest.

President of the Jury: Big-Game – Design Studio

Big-Game is a design studio established by Augustin Scott de Martinville, Grégoire Jeanmonod and Elric Petit and based in Lausanne, Switzerland. The much-acclaimed trio often call their designs simple, functional and optimistic, as well as engaging and useful. Big-Game’s designs are singular by their attention to function, simple shapes and surprising details. Despite their minimalistic approach, the creative trio have succeeded in establishing a highly distinctive identity for their designs. This inventive disposition is self-evident in the True Phospho watch they designed for Rado.

Rossana Orlandi – Founder of Spazio Rossana Orlandi

In 2002, after more than 20 years working in the fashion industry as a textile consultant for brands such as Giorgio Armani and Donna Karan, and for her family’s business, she decided to redirect her passion for design as a private collector by establishing an innovative gallery, a platform where she might share her personal views on design and lifestyle. Since then, she has curated several exhibitions in Italy and abroad and collaborated with a number of high-end fashion, luxury and lifestyle brands. Her constant pursuit of new ideas from all around the world has made her one of the most influential names for launching new up-and-coming talents.
Hakim El Kadiri – Vice President Product Development, Rado

Hakim El Kadiri has been in charge of product development at Rado since 2011. His technical know-how, marketing skills and passion for beauty in general – design, art, photography – have led him to pursue a career in the watchmaking industry.

Yann Fabès – Director of ENSCI-Les Ateliers

Yann Fabès started his career as a plastic artist in 1988. His work, which investigates modes of representation, has been featured in galleries, art centres and museums in France and abroad. Additionally, he has also worked as a Project Manager for the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Saint-Étienne between 1989 and 1999. From 1999 to 2003, he taught at the Saint-Étienne Regional School of Fine Arts, then was named Art Department Coordinator from 2003 to 2006, before he became Academic Coordinator in 2006. He also taught art history at Jean Monnet University in Saint-Étienne from 1994 to 2003. Between 2007 and 2011, he held the position of Academic Director at the Saint-Étienne Higher School of Art and Design.

Philippe Brocart – Managing Director of MAISON&OBJET

Since 2012, Philippe Brocart is the Managing Director and a member of the Executive Board of SAFI – a subsidiary of Ateliers d’Art de France and Reed Expositions France –, the company that organises MAISON&OBJET, PARIS DESIGN WEEK and publishes the online platform MOM. From 1991 to 2012, he previously held the positions of Event Director and Divisional Director at Reed Expositions France, the French subsidiary of the world’s leading events organiser Reed Exhibitions.
Rado Star Prize France 2018 call for entries is now open!

This call for entries is intended for emerging design talents. Applications for the Rado Start Prize can be submitted from April 16th to June 8th 2018, via email at: candidatures@parisdesignweek.fr

For additional information, please visit: www.radostarprize.rado.com

About Rado
Rado is a globally recognized brand, famous for innovative design and its use of revolutionary materials to create some of the world's most beautiful and durable watches. Ever since its beginnings in Lengnau, Switzerland, Rado has been a pioneer, with the brand philosophy “if we can imagine it, we can make it” still holding true today.

About Rado Star Prize
Rado Star Prize is a contest held around the world in order to support young, under-the-radar designers and to offer them a stage to showcase their work. Rado wishes to attract projects and concepts from all design disciplines, in order to spotlight designs that improve the life of people and communities, now and in the future.