



- 1 Fotografie, Lichtscharten in der Südwand der sich im Bau befindenden Kirche Notre-Dame du Haut in Ronchamp, Motiv/Dekor, 1955, Fotografie: René Burri, Donation: Lotteriefonds des Kantons Zürich, Stadt Zürich Finanzverwaltung, Freundeskreis Museum für Gestaltung Zürich. Abbildung: Museum für Gestaltung Zürich / ZHdK
- 2 Fotografie, Le Corbusier und José Oubrerie im Atelier, 35 rue de Sèvres, Paris, 1959, Fotografie: René Burri, Donation: Lotteriefonds des Kantons Zürich, Stadt Zürich Finanzverwaltung, Freundeskreis Museum für Gestaltung Zürich. Abbildung: Museum für Gestaltung Zürich / ZHdK

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René Burri (1933–2014) was Le Corbusier's (1887–1965) personal photographer for many years. He produced countless portraits and architecture “stories,” which were published in major magazines around the world. These memorable photographic series about Le Corbusier and his work go well beyond purely biographical information to capture archetypical situations in an architect's life, or in the lives of creative people in general.

Ever since his days as a student of Hans Finsler (1891–1972) at the Kunstgewerbeschule Zürich, René Burri was more interested in people than in the dry object photography that was taught there. This was also true of his architectural images, in which Burri brought the social and political dimensions of the built environment into focus. He created genuine photographic stories that placed a building and its inhabitants in relation to one another. At the same time, over the years he developed into a congenial chronicler of the architect and his oeuvre. His first photographs for Le Corbusier, taken in 1955, show the construction of his fantastic Chapelle Notre-Dame-du-Haut in

Ronchamp. He met the great architect there for the first time, on the occasion of the opening celebrations. Burri quickly won Le Corbusier's trust. He proceeded to accompany him on his travels and photograph him in his studio or with his clients—for example, with the monks from the La Tourette monastery. After several years, the architect invited Burri to his studio house in Paris. The result was one of his most intimate photo sequences. Burri arrived at the appointed time and found the door to the house open. Le Corbusier was working in his painting studio, as he did nearly every morning. For over an hour, René Burri circled around the architect, gradually coming closer and closer until he finally clicked the shutter on his camera directly beside the master. Only then did Le Corbusier raise his head and break the spell: “Ah! Vous êtes là!” (Christian Brändle)

Fotografie, Le Corbusier in seinem Studio, 35, rue de Sèvres, Paris, 1959
Fotografie: René Burri
Bildquelle: Magnum, Paris, FR
Porträtierte Person: Le Corbusier
Material/Technik: Fotopapier, s/w-Fotografie, Late Print
17 × 25 cm

Donation: Lotteriefonds des Kantons Zürich, Stadt Zürich Finanzverwaltung,
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<https://www.eguide.ch/en/objekt/le-corbusier-in-seinem-studio/>