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Karel Teige was one of the greatest European intellectuals of his time. His range of interests was truly far-reaching and unique in the world. Architectural functionalism would have looked completely different without his input. His preference for rational, international designs with an emphasis on the social function of modern architecture was the “most functionalist functionalism” at the time.

Teige’s collages are absolutely phenomenal and show the hidden, passionate side of his personality. His book designs set the tone for an entire generation, and his design principles remain valid even today.

In certain ways, his de-emphasizing of originality and his focus on the ordering and order of things – an idea that is found throughout his work – presage the principles of postmodernism.

Teige’s complicated nature, full of conflicting contradictions, and a yearning for order and logic make him an indecipherable and enigmatic individual, the perfect symbol for the complicated 20th century.

