



SIT DOWN PLEASE!

40 STOOLS FROM 40 COUNTRIES



TEILMÖBLIERT

LORETTOSTRASSE 9 | 40219 DÜSSELDORF | WWW.TEILMÖBLIERT.COM

EUROPEAN
DESIGN
EXHIBITION
2011 6th - 21st MAY

SIT DOWN PLEASE!
40 STOOLS FROM 40 COUNTRIES

WIR HÖRTEN:

Der European Song Contest ist in Düsseldorf!
Wir dachten: Das kann doch nicht wahr sein! Ohne uns?
Nicht möglich, wir machen unsere eigene Veranstaltung.

Uns interessiert es, wie Designer aus anderen Länder leben, wie sie arbeiten und was sie erwarten.

Und – es gibt viel zu wenig Ausstellungsmöglichkeiten für Produktgestalter.
So kam die Idee zur European Design Exhibition.

Wir recherchierten über Monate nach Designern aus europäischen Ländern. Bei einigen Ländern kam die Antwort postwendend, bei anderen versank unsere Anfrage im Nichts. Im zweiten Schritt folgten Aufrufe in verschiedenen Internet-Blogs. Die Zahl der fehlenden Länder wurde kleiner. Im dritten Schritt aktivierten wir unsere privaten Netzwerke. Am Ende kamen wir auf 31 Designer aus 31 Ländern. Einige Lücken trotz intensiver Nachforschung blieben leider, aber das werteten wir auch als Aussage.

Wir freuen uns über die vielen neuen Beziehungen innerhalb Europas, über ein wachsendes Netzwerk und mehr Aufmerksamkeit für den Bereich Produktgestaltung.

Dank an:
Alasdair Thompson – <http://blog.smow.de>
Martin Zampach – <http://designeast.eu>
textschwestern
Christophe Cadoz – [diewerbeträger](http://diewerbeträger.com)
Claudia Rath

Produktgestaltung ist eine eigene Disziplin, wie Malerei, Fotografie oder Architektur.

Anonyme Gestalter

WE HEARD:

The Eurovision Song Contest comes to Düsseldorf!
We thought: That's not going to happen! Not without us!
We make our own event.

We are interested in how designers from different countries are living, how they are working and what their expectations are.
Besides – for product designers there are way too little opportunities to display their work. That's how the idea for European Design Exhibition came up.

For months we were looking for designers from European countries. Some countries responded immediately, some never did.
A second step was to call to action in several blogs. The number of missing countries became smaller. In a third step we activated our private networks. Finally we found 31 Designers from 31 countries. Despite the intense research some gaps couldn't be filled, but we took that as a statement.

We are happy about many new relationships within Europe and about a growing network and more attention to the field of product design.

Anonyme Gestalter

TEILMÖBLIERT

10 Düsseldorfer Gestalter aus den Bereichen Möbel, Produkt und Innenraum haben sich zu einem Interior Label zusammengefunden – TEILMÖBLIERT. Im Laden TEILMÖBLIERT auf der Lorettostraße 9 präsentieren sie ihre Produkte in wechselnden Ausstellungen. Andere Designer werden als Gäste zu den Ausstellungen eingeladen.

Angeboten werden Möbel und Designobjekte, Einzelstücke oder Kleinserien, sowie Planungsleistungen in Innenarchitektur und Architektur.

TEILMÖBLIERT sind:

BMD – Stefan Bruckhaus

Christoph Schmitt

FED – Felix Ersig

Form+ – Michael Klatt

Konemann – Konrad Jesdinsky

lessing produktgestaltung – Christian Lessing

Markus Christian Wilkens

M.O.P. – Berthold Franz

Stefan Schwander

Planungsbüro nme – Mike Neubauer

Öffnungszeiten:

Dienstag – Freitag 12.00 – 18.30, Samstag 11.00 – 15.00.

Telefon 0049 (0)211 468 795 42

oder Informationen unter www.teilmobliert.com

TEILMÖBLIERT

10 Designers from Düsseldorf from the categories furniture, product and interior have formed under the interior lable TEILMÖBLIERT.

In their store TEILMÖBLIERT in Düsseldorf Centre, Lorettostrasse 9 they present their products in changing exhibitions. To these exhibitions other designers and artists are invited as well.

We offer furniture in limited editions, unique design objects and art, as well as planning performance in architecture and interior design.





ALTER 38

BERUF Produktdesignerin/
Schmuckdesignerin

LAND Armenien (geboren in
Deutschland)

EINWOHNERZAHL

3.200.000

GRÖSSE 29.800 km²

HAUPTSTADT Eriwan

ARMENIA

ALIN BOYACIYAN

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Gute Frage? Ich war ja noch nie dort. Vermutlich auf Stühlen, Sesseln, Hockern.

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Meine Bildrecherchen haben ergeben, dass Möbel, Wände und Fenster mit Überwürfen, Teppichen und Vorhängen üppig drapiert werden. Typisch armenische Möbel konnte ich nicht entdecken.

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Bestimmt. Vielleicht – ach, ich weiß auch nicht. Wenn ich das wüsste, dann würde mein Hocker wahrscheinlich nicht so aussehen, wie er nun aussieht.

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

Das Familienleben, die Gesellschaft, die armenische Kirche, Musik und Folklore prägen die Armenier. Das Gemeindeleben in der Diaspora ist sehr traditionsbewusst. Armenier treffen sich hier und dort gerne face to face. Mit einer Sitzgelegenheit kommt man nur sehr schlecht aus und würde auch gar nicht für die Gastfreundschaft dieser Kultur sprechen. Deshalb hat mein Hocker gleich zwei Sitzplätze. Das flexible Mittelstück lässt auf Wunsch einen größeren oder kleineren Abstand zu. Man könnte sich gegenüber sitzen und ein Backgammon-Spielbrett auf der Mitte platzieren. Bücher, Zeitungen, Magazine haben in dieser Mitte eine sichere Ablage. Der Sitzwinkel zueinander ist nicht festgelegt und lässt viele Möglichkeiten für eine bessere Kommunikation zu. Eine „Sitzecke“ ist ebenfalls möglich.

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Die Pluralität.

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

Dieser Frage muss ich gelegentlich nachgehen.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Ja.

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Nein.

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Vielen Dank, Christian, für die Einladung zu dieser Ausstellung. Das ist mein erster Entwurf und Prototyp eines Hockers, wo doch mein gestalterischer Schwerpunkt beim Schmuck liegt. Allerdings hoffe ich, dass es nicht der letzte war. Es war an der Zeit, mich mit einem Entwurf zu meinen Wurzeln zu bekennen.



ALTER 30
BERUF Dipl. Grafik Designerin
LAND Aserbaidzhan
EINWOHNERZAHL
9.111.000
GRÖSSE 86.600 km²
HAUPTSTADT Baku

AZERBAIDZHAN

LALA MAJIDOVA

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Na ja.. wie überall. Mit dem Hintern auf dem Hocker!

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Ja das Motiv ist typisch... Ich liebe es nur farbenfroh.

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Nein, wir sitzen öfters auf dem Teppich, oder stehen auch gerne.

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

-

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Die Motive tragen die Kultur weiter.

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

Überall wird noch die Kultur erhalten, obwohl Großstädte immer moderner werden.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Ja natürlich!

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Als Grafik Designerin

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Liebes Europa mach die Augen auf. Es gibt auch Aserbaidzhan. Lassen Sie sich von uns auch bezaubern.



ALTER 32
BERUF Designer
LAND Österreich
EINWOHNERZAHL
8.402.908
GRÖSSE 83.879 km²
HAUPTSTADT Wien

AUSTRIA

ALEXANDER GUFLER

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Auf Sesseln wie man hier in Österreich zu Stühlen sagt. Generell sitzt man hier sehr gerne und sehr lange...

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Ja, ich denke aber das gilt für den gesamten Alpenraum

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Ja schon, vor allem in den ländlichen Teilen Österreichs

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

Beides

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Der Ausgangspunkt war der 3-beinige Melkschemel wie er hierzulande oder generell im Alpenraum von Bauern zum melken von Kühen verwendet wird. Die Beine wurden mit einer Zapfenverbindung an der Sitzschale befestigt. Diese Art der Verbindung wird sehr häufig an klassischen Bauernstühlen verwendet und ist somit die ideale Verbindung für meinen Hocker.

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

In den letzten Jahren wird Design immer wichtiger, es gibt mehr Veranstaltungen und die Pressepräsenz steigt auch an.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Ja der Hocker wurde von mir gefertigt.

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Ich arbeite als selbständiger Designer und als freier Mitarbeiter in einem Designbüro. (www.awsdesign.cc)

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Es sind die kleinen Dinge im Leben die wirklich zählen



AGE 30
PROFESSION Furniture designer
COUNTRY Belgium
TOTAL POPULATION
11.007.020
SIZE 30.528 km²
CAPITAL Brussels

BELGIUM

TIM BAUTE

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Like in every other place on the world, on every object that is seatable.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

The wooden versions of this stool is mostly used in workshops and on farms.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Yes, mostly the higher versions. They are used a lot in bars and cafes which is a typical social habit in Belgium.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

This design is inspired on a traditional milking stool, but with a modern esthetics.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Design is alive and kicking in Belgium. There are a lot of young and fresh designers active creating innovative new products.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

I wanted to create a stool which is light and made of one piece, with forced formed bends in the seat to make it more comfortable.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

Yes.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

No, I also work as a welder in a metal construction company.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

-



ALTER 44

BERUF Kommunikationsdesigner/
-berater

LAND Bosnien-Herzegowina

EINWOHNERZAHL

4.552.000

GRÖSSE 51.197 km²

HAUPTSTADT Sarajevo

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

VOJISLAV MILJANOVIC

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Man sitzt tief auf einfachen kleinen Holzhockern, am Herd in der Küche, oder draußen vor dem Haus in der Sonne.

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Ja.

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Ja.

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

Die Anschauung in den bosnischen Dörfern i. V. m. der modernen Designszene.

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Die symbolhafte Verbindung zur YU-Vergangenheit.

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

Eine bisher kleine Rolle aufgrund der eingeschränkten freien Marktwirtschaft in der Vergangenheit + Bürgerkrieg + ungelöste politisch-gesellschaftliche Situation.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Ja.

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Nein, auch als Kommunikationsberater.

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Ride the bull, baby, ride it! (oder auf bosnisch: Jebiga! ... oder noch besser: Jebem radoznale!)



AGE 24
PROFESSION Designer
COUNTRY Bulgaria
TOTAL POPULATION
7.606.551
SIZE 111 000 km²
CAPITAL Sofia

BULGARIA

DEISLAVA SREDKOVA

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

In the land of Bulgaria, sitting on a chair is a tradition dating for thousands years. While most of the world civilizations were still used to sit close to the ground, there are evidences for using high chairs with support for the back by the traciens, since 320 AC. Of course, through the centuries the tradition was changing in the height and style of chairs. The habits were also changing from using the chairs only in the end of the day for complete relaxation after the hard daily work to the contemporary all-day usage. Recently, Bulgarians , though most of them Most of the Bulgarians are still living in their soviet-style small apartments and they are experiencing a serious lack of space, though recently they are influenced by all the European and World trends in their process of choosing the chairs.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

It is typical in that extend which reflects at once the ancient tradition of high sitting with a back support combined with the stool concept popular during the years before '89.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Bulgaria as a crossway of the east and west has always been a place where different worlds meet. Due to this, it's hard to be differentiated a particular style in the stools, but exploring the different examples could be exciting experience.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

Both. There is no reason for approaching the design task in different way compared to the one used in every other country. All that globalization in the beginning of 21st century, made the world a really fluent environment providing the best ever conditions for the design process anywhere.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

For the last 10 years, people in Bulgaria, started to appreciate and evaluate design objects, to know the the local and world famous names of design and to use the services of professional designers often, which all together form a positive trend for the importance of design in the country.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

The chair "Pas D'homme" is designed with the idea to bring easily trendiness and style as well as comfort and classicism to the normal Bulgarian household.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

The prototype of the stool is produced with the kind support of GD Interior Design Ltd, Bulgaria.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

The profession, I am practicing is designer in different of its fields – interior, product design and even branding and graphics. But design is more than a job – it's style of feeling the world around.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

What I have ever wanted to shout to Europe is that that imagination has no borders, neither mentally neither territorially. Design has not so.



AGE 31
PROFESSION Designer
COUNTRY Croatia
TOTAL POPULATION
4.489.409
SIZE 56.594 km²
CAPITAL Zagreb

CROATIA

ŽELJKA KAVRAN

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

One sits in my country, when outside of work environment, with their legs crossed having a cup of coffee with their friends. Even if the chairs are the most uncomfortable ever, we will still resist and sit for hours. There is also a lot of sitting on the grass in the nature casually.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

The concept of my stool is typical in the sense of simplicity of the material which is traditionally wood for any stool. The size, the shape and the decor is not typical.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Stools used to be very typical for my country in many traditional crafts (example shoe making) as well as on small family farms, for instance while

milking cows, and this is still present today. It was present in many homes as a very small stool that you could easily move. People used it to rest their feet while sitting on some chair or an armchair, but when there wasn't enough chairs to sit on, they would also use the stools.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

What inspired me was the fact that there is very few things that non Croatian people recognise as Croatian and a necktie is one of them. Very few know that the origin of a tie is Croatian. The necktie traces back to the time of Thirty Years' War (1618–1648) when Croatian mercenaries from the Military Frontier in French service, wearing their traditional small, knotted neckerchiefs, aroused the interest of the Parisians. They adopted this fashion and spread it to the world. I always keep in mind the international design scene and in my opinion people want more and more objects that have a nostalgic feel to them.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Design is a growing discipline in my country, with the graphic design we are on an international level, but because of the transition period many manufacturers of products are falling behind. Slowly this is changing and the conscience of a very important role that the design should play in production is growing. Luckily there is many talented young designers that are trying to push limits.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

With the stool I wanted to keep the simplicity and insinuate the concept of a necktie, while still keeping the oldfashion wood feeling of a stabile firm stool which lets you keep a better posture. The spirit of whiskey, cigars, retro feel are in the decorative veneer. This is a stool that combines new and old.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

The materials were picked by me, while the making itself was done by a carpenter.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I have a degree in economics and I help sometimes in a company run by my family.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

We should all have less prejudice and keep an open mind.

www.zeljkekavran.com



AGE 28
PROFESSION
Furniture-architect
COUNTRY Denmark
TOTAL POPULATION
5.534.738
SIZE 43,098 km²
CAPITAL Copenhagen

DENMARK

MONIQUE ENGELUND

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

We rise with the sun. Sit down for a second in the kitchen drinking our coffee. Straight to the bathroom to spend a while sitting on the toilet. We sit down in our car, the train or on our bike to go to a job where we sit down on quite uncomfortable officechairs. After work we might go to a café to sit in a sofa or outside having a cigarette & a glass of wine with a friend. Then we probably choose to sit on the stairs by the Central Station to enjoy the sunshine while waiting for a bus. Around 6pm we sit neatly around the dinnertable to have a chat about the day gone by. The children go sit in front of their laptops, and the parents in front of the TV. After a quick sitting at the toilet, we finally go to bed to lie down...

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

It should be.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

The conventional and iconic low 3 legged stools was commonly used for milking the cows for centuries. Not sure there's so much manual cow-milking going on these days...

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

It is very interesting to investigate how people act and communicate in urban spaces, and to experiment with how design can change our experiences. An interesting case study is the Tuileries & Luxembourg gardens in Paris, where visitors have the freedom of moving around the lovely public furniture, creating different formations according to sunlight or social affiliations.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Contrary to most peoples idea about danish design, I have to say we are not just designing wooden chairs. Design plays a huge role in Denmark and every part of the Danish society is in some way "designed".

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

The LEAN stools have no function standing alone – they need each other to lean on! They require communication and cooperation between the users to create the possibility of sitting, and encourage playfulness as well as solidarity. LEAN stools tells a story about how the we need eachother to make the world work and is an example on how furniture can influence our behavior, and generate unexpected social relations.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

No, welding experts helped me build the prototype.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I focus on making products and furniture, but also work as a trend consultant and do freelance concept development for danish companys.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Choose your objects carefully!



ALTER

sehr unterschiedlich

BERUF mal so mal so

LAND deutschsprachig

EINWOHNERZAHL

81.778.000

GRÖSSE 357.111 km²

HAUPTSTADT Berlin

DEUTSCHLAND

ANONYME GESTALTER

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Wer es im Rücken hat, steht lieber, wer aber stehen muß, sitzt lieber.

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Sehr typisch! in diesem Land wird alles geregelt und angeleitet, wir leiten an zum sitzen.

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Eigentlich sind Hocker zu unbequem für Deutschland.

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

Eindeutig unsere Umgebung.

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Er ist sehr schwer und schrumpft von Tag zu Tag.

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

Design gilt als Verhübschung, als Zusatz, als Fingernagel Gestaltung. Es gibt eindeutig zu viel Design in diesem Land – aber natürlich das Falsche.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Nein, Facharbeiter haben ihn in einer Fachwerkstatt fachgerecht angefertigt.

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Nein, in den seltensten Fällen.

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Thanks teilmoebliert, it is a wonderful show.



AGE -
PROFESSION Designer
COUNTRY Finland
TOTAL POPULATION
5.378.039
SIZE 338 430 km²
CAPITAL Helsinki

FINLAND

ELISA HONKANEN

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

In Finland we sit a lot in a kitchen around the dinner table, as for us to socialize means drinking lots of coffee while changing news with friends.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

In a way yes, I studied in this stool traditional wood joinery technics, so its based on Finnish wood work tradition

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Yes, for us stools work both as a seat and a small occasional table, so its a piece you can find from almost every home. One of the most famous examples is surely Alvar Aalto's three legged stool for Artek.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

My main inspiration came from my study of old joinery techniques, but as I always try to do projects for today I was definitely influenced also by the international design scene.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

In Finland design is almost self-evident, its like a natural part of life and its not just because we have grown in an environnement designed by Alvar Aalto, with fabrics of Marimekko, kitchenware by Iittala and so on. In Finland we are most of all practical people so we've got used to search for quality and that drives people to buy design (as it usually guarantees the quality). We are proud of things that last from father to son.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

I'd say the traditional look with a modern touch.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

I had a carpenter to prepare the pieces but I mounted it by myself.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

Yes, I work exclusively as a designer at the moment.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

I'd want to make people understand the importance of the quality in every aspect of everyday life. Its frustrating to see people running after the cheapest choice and then see them crying because the things they bought break as soon as the warranty is over. I would like to stop the „shopaholic“ behavior and make people understand that its better to buy less but with good quality.



AGE 26
PROFESSION Designer
COUNTRY France
TOTAL POPULATION
62.793.482
SIZE 675.417 km²
CAPITAL Paris

FRANCE

EMILIE CAZIN

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

People use to sit on chairs, stools, high chairs around tap-room, on the grass outside when they have a picnic.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

My stool is not directly typical of my country but typical of western european countries where we use to sit in this kind of pose. (compared to Asian countries where they sit close to the floor).

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

No

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

My work is mostly inspired by environmental questions, by natural materials and old knowledges of handcraftmen.

I also keep a look on all the new technologies and how it can serve my work directly on undirectly, and how it can help to imagine new shapes.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

In France, design exists for a long time ago, but companies just understand for few years how design is important to consider for a new product to increase sales, to give a good image from the company and to create new desires.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

My stool is a nomad companion. It's not made to stay at the same place all the time. The design gives it a handle to be moved with people in the house or outside.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

Yes – one prototype exists for now.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I work as designer and in retail design also.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Give people simple opportunities to mix each other to be stronger. But keep the authentic specificities of everyone. That is the wealth of Europe.



AGE 42
PROFESSION Teacher, Designer
COUNTRY Greece
TOTAL POPULATION
10.760.136
SIZE 131.957 km²
CAPITAL Athens

GREECE

YIANNIS GHIKAS

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Nowadays almost everybody prefers the low and fluffy lounge chairs and sofas and this reflects our sluggish way of life.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

I wouldn't say it is.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

In the past their use was more common, for gatherings in the house, next to the fireplace, around a table, to accommodate the extra, unexpected, guests that were always welcome. In our days you can meet them mostly in bars and coffee shops.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

The complexity of my being.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

The average Greek doesn't have the education to appreciate the role that design plays. The importance of Design in Greece is the same like in any other country we just haven't realized it yet.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

Monarchy is a stool, it is a rocking stool. It rocks sideways and it rocks back and forth. Monarchy also swivels. Monarchy is designed not to be overturned but at the same time allows the user to escape the dullness of the ultimate stability.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

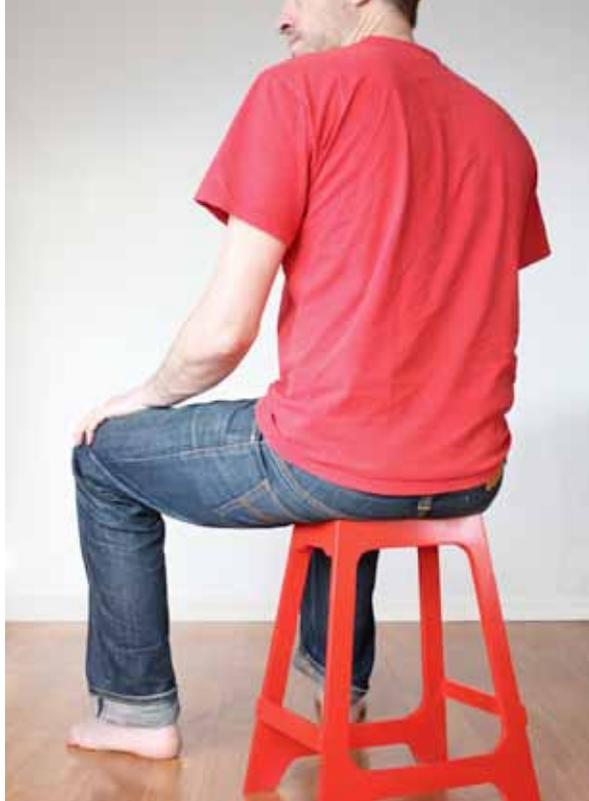
No, someone made 2 prototypes for me and then Feld started producing it.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I work as a teacher in a public school, in my free time i work as a tour leader to make some extra money. Design for the moment costs money to me, it doesn't offer me any.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

I will borrow one of the truisms of Jenny Holtzer that i like a lot : spending too much time on self-improvement is antisocial.



AGE 40

PROFESSION Designer and Art Director

COUNTRY From the UK, living in Sweden

TOTAL POPULATION

61.113.205

SIZE 243.610 km²

CAPITAL London

GREAT BRITAIN

CHARLIE DAVIDSON

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

I would like to say people sit on the edge in the UK but as I have noticed most people slouch, particularly in front of a computer.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Since I live in Sweden I wanted to combine my British design head with a Scandinavian design esthetic. The use of plywood, simple colours and the uncomplicated and simplified form of the design reflects this combination.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

You mainly find stools used in schools but in the home people would generally have chairs with a back support.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

I felt that it was appropriate I should make a stool from wood, since I live in the forests of Sweden. The design came from the idea of sitting on the edge, as often I have found my self using only the edge of a seat.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

The UK promotes the use of design in all levels of life; in the cities, at work and in the mind. Design is everywhere. Saying that the modern domestic home has some catching up to do to match the level of comfort and style found in the average scandinavian home.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

I wanted to make a stool with a very small top, in fact just big enough to be comfortable; like sitting on the edge.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

I wanted to make my stool from the outset of this project so the simplicity of the design reflected the limited tools and process available to me. The curved plywood was left over from an old prototype.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I have my fingers in lots of pies as they say in England. I design street furniture for cities, design and curate exhibitions, design toys and work in film as an art director and prop maker as well as designing a making my own lighting and furniture.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

We should always live in the now and in the future using best the recourses available to us and being smart in the choices we make. Save your euros for something good and don't by cheap crap.



AGE 44
PROFESSION Furniture Designer,
Woodworker
COUNTRY Hungary
TOTAL POPULATION
9.994.000
SIZE 93.000 km²
CAPITAL Budapest

HUNGARY

PETER PAIS-HORVATH

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

As they live, love and die, or stand, walk or lie: in many different ways.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Maybe not.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

In some rooms, some places and some situations. Sitting on a stool – always a temporary status.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

The international design scene is actually quite far from my workshop. Usually

the design procedure is inspired by the material – and, even more the chosen structure. Furthermore the milieu around me and the momentary impressions can be determining points. In short: material, structure, environment.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

The message of the stool: stop but don't relax! Remember, think, and face forward! Take a seat, stand up, go on! I wish the stool to be reminiscent of the traditional milking seat. And my additional aim was to find a structure and form in harmony with several demands, e.g. technology, environment, material.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Design as a pronounced stuff is not an all around issue. But "there is an uncensored and vital kind of design, by which everybody can cooperate."

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

Yes

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I design wooden objects and furniture, and it's usually also me who manufactures them. By and large, that's all worth knowing about me.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Sit on my stool – and enjoy Hungary, enjoy Yourself!



AGE 29
PROFESSION Product designer
COUNTRY Iceland
TOTAL POPULATION
319.000
SIZE 103.001 km²
CAPITAL Reykjavík

ICELAND

RAGNHEIÐUR ÖSP
SIGURÐARDÓTTIR

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

It really depends on the occasion and surroundings. There is no traditional way to sit although slouched sitting can be frowned upon in schools and in more formal places.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Yes and no. It is an old concept presented in a new way. The traditional cross stitch is taken and blown out of proportion and sewn in wood.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Yes they are. There is most likely a stool in every household.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

A beautiful shape, color, texture and meaning all mixed in one. Whether it is natural or man made doesn't matter.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Iceland has been inspired by Scandinavian design for a long time but only recently has it developed a design scene on its own. Design is very important in Iceland and we have a lot of interesting people doing interesting things. We now have a Design Center, a Design Museum, a bunch of Design shops and our annual Design festival (DesignMarch).

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

Probably its juxtaposition. It mixes new with old, hand made with mass produced, craft with design, etc. But still the outcome is clean and humble.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

Yes, the base is CNC cut in Iceland and the cross stitch is sewn by myself using Icelandic wool.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

Currently I work part time as a designer at my company Umemi. I'm also starting up a web shop and a design studio with my husband Ragnar who is a graphic designer.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Be open minded, anything is possible!



AGE 30
PROFESSION Industrial designer
COUNTRY Israel
TOTAL POPULATION
7.653.600
SIZE 20.770 / 22.072 km²
CAPITAL Jerusalem

ISRAEL

INON RETTIG

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Israel is a very intense country in a very intense region. Everything here happens really fast and sometimes one can get the feeling that in Israel people have no time to sit down. But looks can be deceiving, sitting is relaxing and Israelis love to relax and although Israelis are hard workers they prefer doing it sitting down.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

No, in its aesthetics it is not typical but my work process is more typical to the Israeli character, using a technological disadvantage to my advantage.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Yes, although Israel is dominated by western culture. it is strongly influenced by eastern arab cultures which have a wide use of stools and other forms of low sitting. A stool is the mid-position between sitting and crouching and because Israelis are always on the run, as I mentioned before, a stool is the perfect way to catch a cup of coffee in the middle of a hectic day.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Sadly, design is not yet considered important in Israel as it is in Europe. It is hard for young designers to find jobs or internships. the Israeli industry is very hi tech but very small so it is hard to have cooperation's between designers and manufacturers because most manufacturers cant afford to take chances on innovative but sometimes risky ideas. Most internationally known Israeli designer such as Ron Arad, for example, became known after moving there studios to Europe. It looks like it might be changing the past few years and I hope we are on the right track.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

I chose to design and produce a series of stools that combine wood and plastic in such a way that one "confines" the other with in it, giving it form and structure. I worked with the well-known and old fashioned plastic industry technology known as vacuum forming (the processing of plastic bolts through heating and stretching on a tray using vacuum). This is a technology that began with a design orientation but quickly became reduced to a secondary element that is considered inferior within the industry. As with every technology, vacuum forming has its unique advantages and disadvantages. One of the primary disadvantages of this technology is the creation of "bridges" or "webbing": in places where the raw material does not reach the tray' it sticks to itself to create sort of plastic walls alongside the tray. The idea of this project is to take that same unintentional disadvantage and to turn it into an intentional advantage. Within these limitations, I created an aesthetic that uses the element of chance as a formal language and, moreover, structurally reinforces the object.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

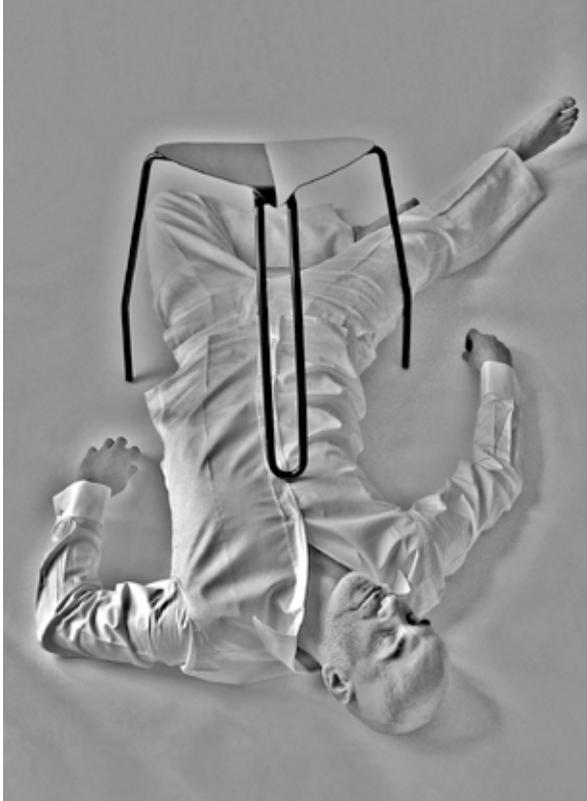
Yes, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_S-5-CcTytE

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

At the moment I work in an internship program for young designers in Israel. It is a 2 year program sponsored by the „keter“ group, a big plastics company. In my free time I share a work space with 8 other designers where we work on all kinds of project together and trying to cooperate with other designers in Israel.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

There is actually nothing I always wanted to tell Europe. I can only advise Europe to keep an eye out for the upcoming Israeli designers.



AGE 44
PROFESSION Designer
COUNTRY Italy
TOTAL POPULATION
60.500.000 (of crazy people)
SIZE 301.336 km²
CAPITAL Roma

ITALY

ALESSANDRO LOSCHIAVO

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Anyhow ... even on the Roman ruins!

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

No

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Not so frequent, people prefer chairs.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

Simply bugs and their sophisticated morphologic synthesis.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Maybe too much important for some people (mainly people from Lombardia), very few for the majority of politicians!

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

"Apis" is a stackable, three-legged stool made entirely in recyclable metals. It's particularly light and easy to carry.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

No, it's a product of Aliantedizioni (the sample on the show is a prototype).

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I'm also art-director at Aliantedizioni.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

... later!



AGE 24
PROFESSION Architect
COUNTRY Kosovo
TOTAL POPULATION
1.800.000
SIZE 10.908 km²
CAPITAL Prishtina

KOSOVO

ARLINDA SHEQIRI

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Awareness of having something unique, something that express what you are, is the beauty and the beauty of sitting is combination of in what we sit and how we sit considering the way how people find an equilibrium, make them explain a lot of things with one movement. Details make something unique.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Got inspired by tradition stool with three legs but brought in more elegant and modern way.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Nowadays not very common.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

I tried to create a balance of both.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Just before 15 yours a go design didn't play an important role, the ability of making something by themselves (handcraft) to fulfill the requirements was more than enough. But now it plays a very important role in every aspect of the life.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

Being simple and elegant is the supreme art of the world.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

Yes

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

Architect and photographer

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

"Everything can be resist except design"



AGE 43
PROFESSION Designer
COUNTRY Lithuania
TOTAL POPULATION
3.354.700
SIZE 65.200 km²
CAPITAL Vilnius

LITHUANIA

DALIUS RAZAUSKAS

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

-

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Could you describe the typical Italian, Dutch or Spanish stool concept now days? Design became universal, less and less region design particularities are left in contemporary furniture design, designers use internet searching for new ideas worldwide exploring different countries culture particularities. World globalization has made product design from one site very advanced, but from another hand very homogeneous. If we talk about my stool – yes, the concept of my stool is typical for Lithuania as it has 4 legs. But the stool top is absolutely original.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Yes, stools are typical pieces of furniture in Lithuania in general.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

In this case I got my inspiration from my environment. Particularities of national sitting led to the concept of the stool top.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Design is very important for Lithuanian people. We like nice, good looking, functional and high quality products. People are likely to spend more money for beautiful products, if they can afford it. I think, this situation settled after long, absolutely „no design“ period being under Soviet occupation.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

Actually this stool was designed for bathroom. The key idea was to protect the chair surface from water. I was thinking how to make the chair with the self draining surface and have it dry and waterproof at ones. As a result we have my stool PIRST, which implementation I find quite attractive.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

My stool is produced in my furniture company

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

-

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Product design talks instead of me.



AGE 59

PROFESSION Multi-Media
Installation Artist & Architect

COUNTRY Malta

TOTAL POPULATION

410.290

SIZE 300 km²

CAPITAL Valetta

MALTA

NORBERT FRANCIS ATTARD

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

It depends on the context. For example, if it's in Parliament, it's very comfortable.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

No. But I tried to combine two elements, soft and hard materials to reflect the political polarization in my country. So, to some degree, my stool is also uncomfortable.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

We have different sizes: for fishing, for working, bar stools, very small stools for resting one's feet, etc.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

Neither really. I was notified one week before sending the stool, so I had to act very fast. In this case, it was mostly a combination of limited time and lateral thinking that inspired me.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Design is generally important in my country. However, we have a rich history so we give too much importance to the past and not enough to contemporary culture.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

The five cushions that make up the stool can interchange. Each cushion has a different fabric. The idea is to be able to change the top cushion according to the season.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

I normally work with my carpenter but because of time constraints, I produced the stool on my own.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I am presently a contemporary installation artist dealing primarily with several different disciplines: architecture, sculpture, video and photography. My architectural background as a practicing architect (1977–1996) is still a great influence on my present work.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Less Words – More Action

AGE 27

PROFESSION Product Designer

COUNTRY Netherlands

TOTAL POPULATION

16.669.112

SIZE 41.526 km²

CAPITAL Amsterdam



NETHERLANDS

KLAAS KUIKEN

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

I think it doesn't make a big difference from other countries. Dutch people are very adaptive people, a chair is preferred but when it is needed everything will do, like a sidewalk, stairs, the back of a bicycle or on the ground. I prefer sitting on my workbench and kitchen also.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

I think this is easier to tell if you are not from The Netherlands.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Not as I recall.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

My environment more than the international design scene. I'm not a designer that tries to keep up with the leading trend, still you have to be aware of what is happening. In my day to day things I keep my eyes open for beautiful, funny or smart materials and solutions that I can later use in my designs.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

The Netherlands is a great country if it comes to design. Droog design really loosens things up, not only in the Netherlands, and is a big inspiration for me. Also there are good design educations here, along with good shops and galleries. Because of the successes of Dutch design, people are more aware of design.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

(Kevlar Stool) Finding the right shape for a stool or other product is a long process, that is why I wanted to let the materials lead in this design. By taking a standard but unusual material for this, PVC-piping and curves. Creating shapes is easy with this. Because of the wobbliness of the PVC parts I used Kevlar soaked in epoxy to harden the shape. To complete with a deck of OSB panel this makes a high and lowtech design.

(Worker Stool) For the leather stool we dug in to crafts of leathershaping, we got inspired by leather bike saddles made by Brooks and Lepper. The leather and the construction underneath will adapt to the user, like the saddles do, to create individual comfort.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

(Kevlar Stool) This prototype is produced in my studio, the final product will be partially prefabricated and put together in my studio.

(Worker Stool) The design was made in collaboration with Sjoerd Vroonland and Yvette Jacobs. The leather was provided by Lepper saddles. The rest was produced by ourselves. The leather was shaped using a mold and press.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I work exclusively as a designer, I have a studio based in Arnhem. I am also educated as electrician and mechanical engineer. I use this knowledge in my designs, but not as a profession.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Look around and be inspired by day to day beauty.



AGE 21
PROFESSION Product Design
Student
COUNTRY Norway
TOTAL POPULATION
4.941.600
SIZE 385.252 km²
CAPITAL Oslo

NORWAY

STIAN KORNTVED RUUD

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Sofas and armchairs are typical furniture you see in Norwegian livingrooms. The majority of norwegian homes have stools, but most common in the kitchen. The most traditional way of sitting in Norway is a chair-shaped tree stump.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Exploiting wooden properties is typically Norwegian. We have a long tradition of experimenting with the boundaries of wood. This experimentation has played a big role in shaping my stool. The use of organic shapes inspired by nature, also contributes to make this a typical Norwegian stool.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Stools have a long tradition and has always been a typical piece of furniture in

the Norwegian home. The general perception of the concept considered as a versatile piece of furniture that can be used to sit on, as a small table or used as an additional step to reach the top shelf.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

While the main inspiration for this stool is Scandinavian design from the 60's, the construction is inspired by traditional craftsmanship. My environment is a great source of inspiration to me, but I find that it's important to keep an eye on the international scene as well.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Norway has always been the underdog in Scandinavia, and in order to gain visibility next to Sweden and Denmark, there has been a need for innovation and experimentation. In recent years Norway has stepped out of the shadow proving ourselves worthy of attention within the design realm.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

My stool exudes the Scandinavian spirit, and the choice of material and process of production are deeply rooted in the Norwegian traditions. What makes this concept special is how I've blended historical influence with a contemporary form of expression.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

Yes, the stool was produced by me in my schools workshop.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I'm primarily occupied with studies and I'll soon be finishing my bachelor's degree in product design. Besides that I spend a lot of time on my other interests such as photography, video processing, analog circuitry and intaglio techniques.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

I would like to work as an intern outside Norway. Working with new people and cultures have always interested me. So feel free to contact me if you are interested in a collaboration!

www.stiankorntvedruud.com



ALTER 35
BERUF Architekt / Prozessdesigner
LAND Polen
EINWOHNERZAHL
38.192.000
GRÖSSE 312.685km²
HAUPTSTADT Warschau

POLAND

OSKAR ZIETA

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Senkrecht, wie es in einem katholischen Land sein sollte ;)

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Mein Design ist europäisch, entstanden in der Schweiz, in Polen entwickelt und produziert und alles in einem sehr interdisziplinären und internationalen Team.

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Ja – wurden vor allem in der Küche genutzt.

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

Das Material – Metal und die Blech-Bearbeitungsmethoden.
Die kontrollierte – Kontrollverluste und die weitere Entwicklung einer neuen Blechstabilisierungstechnologie (FiDU)

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Plopp ist ein serienhergestellter Unikat – jedes Stück ist durch die angewandte präzise Technologie hergestellt doch im letzten Technologieschritt (in der Deformationsprozess) doch ein bisschen anders.

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

Nicht viele wissen, dass Polen der 4. Produzent von Möbel in der Welt ist. Viele von den grössten Möbelmarken haben sich auf die Produktion ihren Produkten in Polen entschieden, weil Polen stabile Wirtschaftssituation, hohe Qualität der Leistung sowie immer noch niedrigere Produktionskosten bietet. Polen wurde zum sehr grossen Möbelproduzenten, nicht aber zum Designer! Es gibt wenig polnischer Design – die Firmen produzieren für andere Marken, haben aber leider selten sein eigenes Produkt, sein eigenes Design, sein eigenes Entwicklungsstudio. Der nächste Schritt nach der hohen Produktionsqualität sollte auch die Investition in eigenes Design sein. Zur Zeit entstehen viele neue Designschulen und Designlehrstühlen, welche als Zweck haben, eine junge polnische Kader der Designer zu bilden.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Seit 2007 habe ich zusammen mit meinen Vater eine kleine Fabrik in Polen, in der wir unter anderem auch die Hocker produzieren. Ich glaube, dass die echte Innovation kommt da, wo sich die theoretische Arbeit mit dem Entwerfen und der physischen Arbeit zusammenfinden, an der Stelle, wo der Designer oder Konstruktor die realen Produktionsprobleme findet und löst.

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Ich arbeite als Designer, als Wissenschaftler, ich unterrichte gerne an der ETH in Zürich und bin auch Head of Industrie Design in der Schule off Form in Posen (Polen).

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Noch vor zwanzig Jahren brauchten wir ein spezielles Visum um irgendwohin zu reisen und einige Ziele waren einfach geschlossen. Heute können wir durch die ganze Welt reisen und da lernen oder arbeiten – genauso wie, andere EU-Bürger. Die Grenzen sind jetzt nur theoretisch da und wenn man die Sprache des Nachbarn versteht werden sogar ganz unsichtbar. Europa gibt einfach grenzenlose Möglichkeiten – auch ausserhalb von Europa!



ALTER -
BERUF Designer
LAND Portugal
EINWOHNERZAHL
10.617.575
GRÖSSE 92.345 km²
HAUPTSTADT Lisboa

PORTUGAL

MARCO ANTÓNIO PALAS DOS SANTOS PINA

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Portugiesen sitzen nicht anders wie Deutsche oder andere Europäer". Es gibt kein typisch portugiesisches sitzen.

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Nein!

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Nein!

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

Mich inspirieren Dinge die nichts mit Design zu tun haben.

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Schnelle einfache Produktion; low cost; reduce to the max; Klapphocker, gut verstaubar.

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

Design wird auch in Portugal immer wichtiger. In den letzten Jahren sind auch immer ausgezeichnete Produkte aus Portugal gekommen.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Ja!

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Designer mit Herz und Blut! Haupttätigkeit als Kommunikationsdesigner

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Es ist schön Europäer zu sein!



AGE 24
PROFESSION Designer
COUNTRY Romania
TOTAL POPULATION
21.959.278
SIZE 238.391 km²
CAPITAL Bucharest

ROMANIA

PAULA ADINA SUMALAN

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

People sit on chairs, stools, sofas, armchairs etc.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

No, it is not.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Yes, they are.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

The design of the stool is inspired by the traditional romanian towels. I tried to incorporate the traditional romanian art to the design and give it a modern look.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

I don't think there is anything special about my concept. As representing Romania, I wanted to reflect a small piece of the traditional Romanian art but at the same time give it a personal and contemporary touch.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Ordinary people associate the term design only to fashion, graphic design, branding, web design and advertise because these are in general asked for by clients on the Romanian market. Even though design in Romania is important, people are not aware of its importance because they don't know the abilities and work it implies.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

Yes, with the help of my boyfriend.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

Yes, I work exclusively as a designer.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Europe should support people that have great ideas that could improve the world but who cannot afford to pay all the taxes to legally protect their ideas.



AGE 35

PROFESSION Designer

COUNTRY Sweden

TOTAL POPULATION

9.415.570

SIZE 449.964 km²

CAPITAL Stockholm

SWEDEN

MARTIN BJÖRNSON

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Literary, and in this case metaphorically, we sit on great nature resources in Sweden.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

No, not really. I think this piece is more like a crossover between art and design, and this generic, sculptural type is not typical Swedish.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

In older days i believe stools were very common in the peasantry, i.e. milking stools. Nowadays many people like stools because they're easy to place and exists in a wide range of expressions—everyone can find their favorite! Actually I tend to love stools myself! Most likely You can expect more stools of my design, besides the ones I've already made.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

This stool, called 'Arkipelag' ('Archipelago'), was inspired by the Swedish nature. We have big forests and a very long coastline (about 1 360 km). It was obvious to me to make the stool from materials that can be found in Sweden.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

My aim was to make a playful yet functional object, at the same time saying something about Sweden. Hopefully you'll get the picture of an islet, with an old, majestic pine tree standing alone. The carpet is a part of the design and symbolizes the sea. Its square shape might say something about the bureaucratic climate in Sweden...

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Design plays a big role in Sweden, speaking of our industry. For appliances, 'The Swedish Grace' set the standard in the early 20th century, and of course we're a part of the 'Scandinavian Style'. We'll see where the progression takes us—I think there's need for some change!

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

Yes, the stool is crafted in my own workshop/studio.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I work only within the designfield, though both in two and three dimensions.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

I always wanted to love and be loved.



ALTER 36
BERUF Designer
LAND Slowakei
EINWOHNERZAHL
5.500.000
GRÖSSE 49.035 km²
HAUPTSTADT Bratislava

SLOVAKIA

SASCHA BOGNER

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Wie's sich ergibt.

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Könnte sein.

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Nicht wirklich.

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

Eher die internationale Kunstszene.

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Was versteht man unter einem Ziegenbock?

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

Eine untergeordnete.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Klar!

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Meistens.

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Dobry Den!

AGE 26
PROFESSION Designer
COUNTRY Spain
TOTAL POPULATION
47.021.031
SIZE 504.645 km²
CAPITAL Madrid



SPAIN

DICREIN ESTUDIO DE
DISEÑO (MEMBERS: EDUARDO TAPIADOR POLO,
LETICIA RODRÍGUEZ RUANO, LUCIA MATEO BELDA)

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

In Spain people like movement, don't can't stay still... even if they are sitting. And even when they are sitting they are not in a straight position they like to lay, to make comfortable, or accommodate themselves.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

It's an innovation concept, there are not similar elements with the same concepts... but it achieve a function: don't stop even when your are sit... It's a similar action that Spanish people make putting the chair on two legs (chair legs)

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Yes, the main use is in bars, pubs, café...

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

We have inspired in our environment... The sun and the warm weather in Spain make people want movement and that it's what we want to transmit with Shkon, our stool.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

It's achieve a non resolved function in the existing Spanish stools: the movement... It's also based under a healthy concept similar to the benefits that produce a fitball ball.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Design in Spain it's everyday more important (it's gathering strength) People it's realizing about the importance of having the best design in all of the production steps: project conceptualization, making new ideas, production, and even all the product life.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

We have produce the stool on our own but some specialist have help us with the metal and the wood structures.

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

We work as designers but we are in all of the design fields : Industrial design, graphic design, interior design, shop window designers, and we also works as product photographers.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Design it's the best tool to overcome the crisis. A good design can help to improve most of the everyday aspects.



ALTER 54
BERUF Möbeldesigner
LAND Schweiz
EINWOHNERZAHL
7.800.000
GRÖSSE 41285 km²
HAUPTSTADT Bern

SWITZERLAND

HEINZ BAUMANN

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Gerne bequem. Auf sehr billigen Stühlen, z.B. im Garten oder auch auf handgefertigten und sehr kostbaren Einzelstücken und überhaupt, auf allem, was der Markt hergibt.

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Nein

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Nein, aber kulturhistorisch bedeutsam.

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

Die Geschichte der Stabelle im Alpenraum

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Eine reinrassige Holzkonstruktion mit historischem Vorbild.

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

Design ist Kultur. Wir wollen und können uns Kultur wieder leisten.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Ja

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Ja

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Seid stolz auf Eure Kultur.



AGE 52
PROFESSION Designer /
Historian
COUNTRY Turkey
TOTAL POPULATION
78.000.000
SIZE 780.500 km²
CAPITAL Ankara

TURKEY

GURSAN ERGIL

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Traditionally we sit low, typical tea-garden stool that is made from wood and straw is around 27 - 30 cm of height. The height of my stool is also 27 cm, which corresponds to Le Corbusier's Modulor 'low bench' height as well.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Form of my stool is not typical for Turkey like most of my pieces.

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

They are used generally in the school food halls, military barracks, and tea gardens.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

I don't have a clue about what inspired the international design scene. It can be argued that some inspired by nature and some inspired by money and fame...

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

My stool is called 'a bridge' - orient & occident - in the form of a triangle that you can seat as 'riding a horse' position. I placed one leg at the front. It is a lion paw foot to represent/symbolise western/christian thought. Lion paw foot was used in early Greek and Roman furniture, as well as French, English, and Italian Renaissance period. At the back end of my stool I placed a leg of Islamic lectern that is representing middle-eastern/islamic thought. Every piece of 'a bridge' is made out of reclaimed wood and of course a bridge located between two civilization is being Turkey. At the rear of the seating part I carved an emblem of a 'peace' as my personal wish.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

It is a new term and used where ever possible for marketing. A term that is used as a tool of consumerism.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

Me and my assistant 'ibo'

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

I do work as designer and historian.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

Don't be prejudice.

The stool is too
holy
to be
represented

AGE 23
PROFESSION Designer
COUNTRY Italy (City of Vatican)
TOTAL POPULATION
999
SIZE 0.44 km²
CAPITAL (Holy) City of Vatican

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR CONCEPT?

It's too holy.

WHAT ROLE DOES DESIGN PLAY IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Design is only a word, only the life is important.

DID YOU PRODUCE THE STOOL ON YOUR OWN?

God produces it!

DO YOU EXCLUSIVELY WORK AS A DESIGNER?

Always open minded, that's important.

TELL EUROPE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO.

-

CITY OF VATIKAN

DAVIDE TUBERGA

HOW DO PEOPLE SIT IN YOUR COUNTRY?

Usually we don't sit, we wait always for the pope and so on.

IS THE CONCEPT OF YOUR STOOL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Of course, you will see...

ARE STOOLS IN GENERAL TYPICAL FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

Much more than the people think.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU, YOUR ENVIRONMENT OR THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SCENE?

The international scene is my environment!

AGE 41
PROFESSION Designerin
COUNTRY Yugoslavia
TOTAL POPULATION
23.000.000
SIZE 255.804 km²
CAPITAL Beograd



YUGOSLAVIA

SNJEZANA JELACA

WIE SITZT MAN IN DEINEM LAND?

Meistens auf dem Hintern.

IST DER ENTWURF DEINES HOCKERS TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Jein

SIND HOCKER AN SICH TYPISCH FÜR DEIN LAND?

Jein

WAS HAT DICH INSPIRIERT, DEINE UMGEBUNG ODER DIE INTERNATIONALE DESIGNSZENE?

Meine Umgebung, besser gesagt Baumarkt.

WAS IST DAS BESONDERE AN DEINEM ENTWURF?

Die Zutaten

WELCHE ROLLE SPIELT DESIGN IN DEINEM LAND?

Keine wichtige Rolle.

HAST DU DEN HOCKER SELBER PRODUZIERT?

Ja

ARBEITEST DU AUSSCHLIESSLICH ALS DESIGNER?

Nein

SAG EUROPA, WAS DU SCHON IMMER SAGEN WOLLTEST.

Habt euch lieb.

WIR HABEN GEFRAGT ...

Lieber Designer, liebe Designerin, sei eine/r aus 43 Ländern,

wir möchten Dich einladen zur European Design Exhibition in Düsseldorf, zeitgleich zum European Song Contest am 14. Mai 2011. Die Ausstellung findet statt vom 06. – 20.05.2011.

Wir möchten Dich einladen – vertritt Dein Land mit einem Exponat von Dir! Wir würden uns freuen, wenn Du einer von 43 Designern wirst, der die Ausstellung European Design Exhibition mitgestaltet.

Die Idee

Wie kommt Europa zusammen? Wie verständigen wir uns? Gemeinsam singen können wir schon, der Euro verbindet einige, aber kennen wir uns? Sprachen und Essen unterscheiden sich – die Designsprache auch?

Die Aufgabe

Wie sitzt man... in Deinem Land?

Wir bitten um die Zusendung eines klassischen Produktes – einen Hocker.

1. Sag uns bitte bis zum 28. Februar zu, ob Du dabei bist.
2. Entwerfe und baue einen Hocker in den maximalen Maßen 45 x 45 x 45 cm.
3. Verpacke den Hocker und schicke ihn spätestens bis zum 28. April zu uns.
4. Fotografiere Dich selbst auf Deinem Hocker an einem Ort Deiner Wahl.
5. Fülle den Steckbrief aus. Schicke Foto und Steckbrief per E-Mail an uns.
Das Foto sollte 10 x 15 cm und 300 dpi groß sein.

Wir würden uns sehr freuen, mit Dir zusammen diese Idee einer gemeinsamen European Design Exhibition umsetzen zu können.

WE ASKED ...

Dear Designer, be one of 43 countries,

we would like to invite you to the European Design Exhibition in Düsseldorf, which takes place at the same time as the European Song Contest on May the 14th 2011 does. The exhibition takes place from the 5th of May until the 20th of May 2011.

We would like to invite you to represent your country with an exhibit made by yourself. We would be very pleased if you became one of the 43 designers who take part at the European Design Exhibition.

The Idea

How does Europe come together? How do we communicate? We can already sing together, the Euro connects several of us, but do we know each other? Languages and food differ for sure, does the design language do so, too?

The Task

How does one sit in... your country?

We request the mailing of a classical product – a stool.

1. If you want to take part, please confirm to us until 28th of February.
2. Design and build a stool. The dimensions should be 45 x 45 x 45 cm maximum.
3. Package your stool and send it to us until the 28th of April.
4. Take a photo of yourself sitting on the stool in a place which you can choose on your own.
5. Fill out the profile questions you find at the end of this writing. Send the answers and the photo via e-mail to us. The photo should be sized 10 x 15 cm and 300 dpi.

We would be very pleased to realize this idea of a conjoint European Design Exhibition together with you.

IMPRESSUM

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CONTRIES WE WERE LOOKING FOR DESIGNERS:

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Dänemark . Deutschland . Estland . Finnland . Frankreich . Georgien . Griechenland . Irland
Island . Israel . Italien . Kasachstan . Kosovo . Kroatien . Lettland . Liechtenstein . Litauen
Luxemburg . Malta . Mazedonien . Moldawien . Montenegro . Niederlande . Norwegen
Österreich . Polen . Portugal . Rumänien . Russland . San Marino . Schweden . Schweiz . Serbien
. Slowakei . Slowenien . Spanien . Tschechien . Türkei . Ukraine . Ungarn . Vatikan . Vereinigtes
Königreich . Weißrussland . Zypern

CONTRIES WHERE WE FOUND DESIGNERS:

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Deutschland . Estland . Finnland . Frankreich . Griechenland . Island . Israel . Italien
Kosovo . Kroatien . Litauen . Malta . Niederlande . Norwegen . Österreich . Polen . Portugal
Rumänien . Schweden . Schweiz . Slowakei . Spanien . Türkei . Ungarn . Vatikan . Vereinigtes
Königreich