

REFINE

The multi-annual program EMBRACING EXCHANGE aims to connect designers, makers and institutions across the national borders. The program focuses on design hotspots Eindhoven, Cologne and Maastricht and exhibits contemporary design from the cross-border region between rivers Meuse and Rhine.

EMBRACING EXCHANGE is organized by Dutch Design Exchange [DDX]. This initiative was set up in order to help Dutch businesses within the 'Creative Industry' to work across the national borders in Europe. DDX's network and geographical position [Maastricht, NL] has lead to a focus on Belgium and Germany.

Under the title REFINE, the latest projects in the field circular design from this region are being shown at YKSI EXPO during Dutch Design Week 2019.





Agne Kucerenkaite

Porcelain tableware, woven textiles, and ceramic wall tiles. With the collection 'Ignorance is Bliss', designer Agne Kucerenkaite shows that "worthless" and even toxic materials can be reused efficiently, both on a large and a small scale. She processed metal waste from industry, such as water treatment plants and soil remediation companies, into pigments for new products and production methods. Surprisingly, the most contaminated materials also proved to have the most potential.

www.agne-k.com

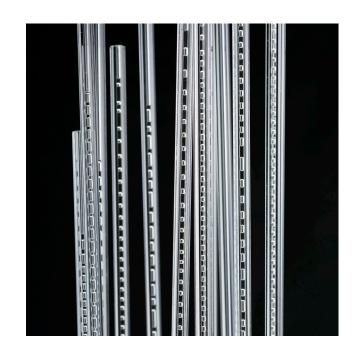




Leif Czakal Timm Donke

Hollow bricks that can be filled with ingredients and stacked to build temporary ovens. Inspired by the age-old process of brick-firing in East Africa, this collaborative project aims to put social interaction back on the menu. At a Bricknic, each participant is provided with a brick to fill with food. Everyone then gets together to build the oven and cook the food inside the bricks. Afterwards, the oven is taken apart and it's time to eat!





Clara Schweers

Within philosophy and science Clara Schweers follows thought full processes, captivating by a perpetual trace of ecological awareness. Her project "Waters" sees water not as a mere resource for human survival but as free, unbound and effortlessly powerful as it moves on with time, defying gravity. Her poetic interventions and centerpieces reframe "our perception of water as something omnipresent but invisible into something rare but very much real".

www.claraschweers.com





Jan Christian Schulz

The project 'moorwerk' anchors the traditional North German moorland culture of the 19th century. The result is a synergy of old craftsmanship and contemporary design using a newly developed material. The designer Jan Christian Schulz invented a special technique that uses the natural process of moor oak formation. He transfers the procedure to organic materials in an accelerated way and infuses them with the characteristic deep black colour of the moors.

www.moorwerk.com

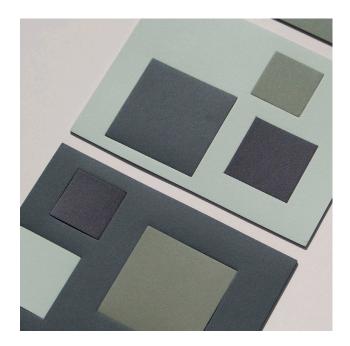




Jo Schoenmakers Marjo de Vries

Jo Schoenmakers and Marjo de Vries found a common denominator from their background (product design and textiles) in the material and production techniques of porcelain. Their projects manifest themselves within the cross-over area between applied and autonomous works. Porcelain - not or partially glazed with often a very thin polished skin - forms a leitmotif in the joint work.

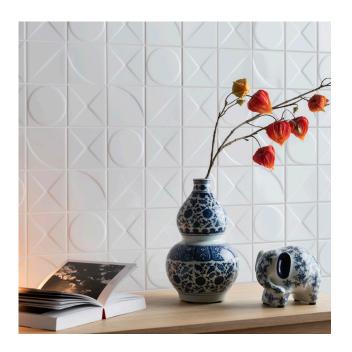




Kita Keus

At Forbo's pilot plant, Kita Keus was able to fully experiment with the mixture of resin, linseed oil, wood flour and limestone, the basis for linoleum. For example, she pressed the wooden blocks with iron pens, used to stamp the patterns on the linoleum after hardening, in the still soft mixture. That gives new shapes, textures and relief. Keus shows that this beautiful, natural and surprising material offers numerous possibilities for new applications.

www.kitakeus.com

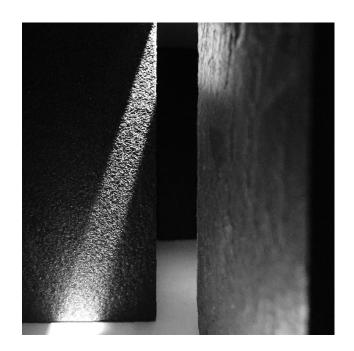




Mosa

At Mosa, we have a passion for ceramics. For over 135 years, we have been manufacturing tiles using the purest materials and the magic of innovative Dutch design. The perfect proof that our tiles are designed to stand the test of time, can be found in our Classics Kho Liang le collection. An iconic design classic from the sixties with glossy, geometric, and textured surfaces. Designed by Kho Liang le, these white wall tiles can be combined to create a striking surface.





Channah Mourmans Leon Nypels

Channah Mourmans and Leon Nypels both studied at the Academy of Architecture in Maastricht. During the study they developed a strong interest in certain aspects of architecture, namely space, material and light. After the study they founded a studio together and developed a personal presentation style, which communicates the essence of their projects in a very poetic way.





Pia Bonnen

IO is a modern and clean vase with several modular top pieces: for any arrangement - no matter if single flowers or festive bouquet - there is as fitting option. The top modules are available in various colors, sizes, materials, and shapes and can be a colorful eye-catcher as well as compliment the beauty of the flowers.





Philip Weyer Christoph Trimborn Katja Filippenko

Philip Weyer, Christoph Trimborn and Katja Filippenko have combined the beautiful with the useful. Together they created compostable confetti carrying at least 26 native seeds, so that more than "no waste" remains after a party. The seed mixture consists of grasses, herbs and flowers. "Saatgutkonfetti" actively contributes to the preservation of the biodiversity of flora and fauna in urban areas. For biodiversity, the bees and for fun.





Studio Niruk

Nina Ruthe and David Antonin have primarily focused on three-dimensional design and experimentation, which has led to developing materials and products. New surface textures and specific material properties are the central themes in their Materials Lab. Their material development CORCRETE is a composite of natural cork and cool concrete. The texture is warm and pleasant to the touch. Properties that inspire to use the material in interior architecture and furniture design.

www.niruk.de





Empar Juanes Sanchis

Empar Juanes has no desire to fall off a cliff, but she enjoys balancing on the edge. This is how she approaches her jewellery, constantly testing the limits of the material. Her work is about resistance, tension and fragility where risk-taking is essential. In order to live fully, Juanes says we must have the courage to be vulnerable. Studying the matter of our personal space and opening a strong, direct, word-less dialogue between the wearer and the observer, "Tensed" is a tribute both to fragility and to life.

www.emparjuanes.com





Rahmlow

Aaron Rahmlow von Lüpke only discovered years after his father's death, that he had successfully set up the furniture brand 'Rahmlow' as an architect and designer in the '80-ties. Just recently, together with his friend Justus Leopold, he gave the brand a new life. The designs from the Eighties are now being produced again. Where possible, the using of current production techniques is providing an even more refined quality.





Marco Iannicelli

Marco lannicelli is an independent product design artist. His style heavily elaborates on extreme material contrasts expressed through friction between simple or archaic forms in movement. The tension field between natural shapes and industrial lines lends particular inspiration. Challenges in marrying the two in functional forms that retain the integrity of both the natural and the refined also help him skirt that which is merely decorative.

www.marcoiannicelli.com





Tom van Rooij

Tom van Rooij studied product design, but is specialized in materials. He used the coconut as an inspiration for the design of a chair. During research, he discovered that it is possible to produce a biological glue from the chitin, that can be extracted from coconuts. This formed the basic concept for the design.

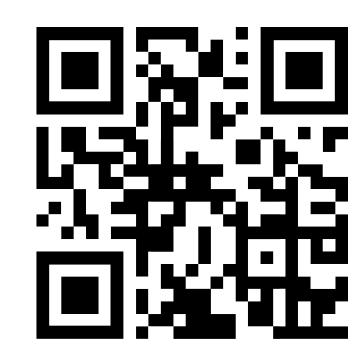




Daan Snippe

This furniture collection is a visual representation of a research into one of the most challenging aspects of a small producer: Making sure that you create aesthetically interesting pieces for the audience, which will in turn create financial stability for the small producer himself. This furniture collection is created using IKEA material sourced directly from new IKEA furniture. Using the challenges of this material to my favor, a unique aesthetic is created.

www.daansnippe.nl









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DUTCH DESIGN EXCHANGE