



.....
Slowenisches
Kulturinformationszentrum
SKICA
.....

I FEEL
SLOVENIA

Pot na Fužine 2
SI-1000 Ljubljana
T +386 (0)1 548 42 70
F +386 (0)1 540 03 44
E mao@mao.si
www.mao.si

MUZEJ ZA
ARHITEKTURO
IN OBLIKOVANJE
MUSEUM OF
ARCHITECTURE
AND DESIGN



Exhibition

Silent Revolutions: Contemporary Design in Slovenia

21 March–28 April 2013

Opening: Thursday, 21 March 2013, 18.30

Design Austria, MQ, Vienna, Austria

The touring exhibition of contemporary Slovenian design will be displayed from the 21st of March to 28th of April 2013 in the museum's quarter Vienna in Austria, organized by Museum for Architecture and Design in Ljubljana and SKICA - Slovenian Cultural-information center in Vienna.

The Silent Revolutions comprises a selection of design that marks the first two decades of this young European country. The exhibition's title Silent Revolutions portrays Slovenia as a country with exceptional design history, which has not (yet) established itself as an important design location in the wider European context. This "silence" was one of the reasons why we conceived this exhibition with a broad range of recent products in dialogue with five historical, iconic objects. Another aspect of the "revolution" from the title draws attention to the fact that several exhibits set new global standards with break-through innovations.

The exhibition does not focus only on the excellence of individual products, but also on their position in the broader context of contemporary Slovene design. This context changed considerably with the declaration of Slovenia's independence in 1991 and with the sudden leap to a new free-market economy that followed. Therefore the exhibition does not only present products and designers, but also clients, producers and companies that paid an important, crucial role in the implementation of projects. It illuminates innovative approaches, new development trends, unusual visions, a new design mentality and good strategic navigation in the present, constantly changing economic conditions. The selection encompasses products of large industries with their own trademarks and objects that in small series are manufactured by designers themselves.

The exhibition presents vital differences that reflect the exceptionality and variety of the moment as the main common denominator of contemporary product design in Slovenia.

www.silentrevolutions.si

Featured designers: Igor Akrapovič, Asobi, Bevk Perović Architects, Lara Bohinc, Ivo Boscarol, Gigodesign, Gorenje Design Studio, Jernej and Japc Jakopin, Leonora Jakovljevič, Kabinet 01, Toni Kancilija, Rok Kuhar and Katjuša Kranjč, Franc Kuzma, Studio Miklavc, Rok Oblak, Oloop, Tanja Pak, Marko Pavlinec, Janez Suhadolc, Arne Vehovar, Nika Zupanc

• Peter Florjančič, Niko Kralj, Saša J. Mächtig, Davorin Savnik, Marko Turk

Featured companies: Akrapovič, Alpina, Lara Bohinc, Elan, Glesia, Gorenje, Imas, Intra lighting, Kuzma, La Femme et la Maison by Nika Zupanc, Leonora Mark – ave femina, Pipistrel, Seaway Group, Stol & Stol, Trimo, Vertigo Bird, Zilio Aldo & C. sas

• Iskra, Imgrad, Stol Kamnik, Elektroacoustics Laboratory (EAL)

Presentations of designers and companies



Lajt Chair, design: Janez Suhadolc, 1991

The chairs designed by architect, designer and craftsman Janez Suhadolc have a decided common denominator: they are made of wood, are handmade, and are both unique and perfect in their imperfection. The designer got the idea for a chair “that can be held at the point of a outstretched finger and that carries the weight of both an adult person and a child at the same time”, in response to criticisms that his chairs were massive and heavy. The result is an ultra light, minimalist chair of basic design that developed into an entire Lajt series and represents Suhadolc's most widely produced design.



Flow water set, design: Tanja Pak for Glesia, 2008

Designer Tanja Pak drew inspiration for the Flow series of glass items from the elementary movement of water, its waves, transparency and ethereal properties that she worked to capture in the solid form of glass. The desire to encourage people to consume water in a healthy way without redundant plastic packaging resulted in the fine, thinly undulated crystal glass made by the best master glass blowers at Steklarna Rogaška. Tanja Pak personifies the fragile connection between the demanding glass-making tradition and new creative technologies. Since 2005 she has run the Glesia Gallery, which specialises in glass items.



Squareplay play space, design: Oloop, 2007

Oloop is both a brand and a collective with a loosely permanent membership of three textile designers: Tjaša Bavcon, Katja Burger and Jasmina Ferček. They joined forces over the course of creative exploration of objects and spaces that can be worn like a second skin or used to move in space. The large (140 x 140 cm) multi-layered surface made of breathing cotton jersey fabric, polyester and polyurethane foam can be folded, turned up, twisted and arranged into various spatial nests. The square shape of the product is conceived such that the child creates his own playground.



Efekt shovel, design: Rinz, Pavlinec & Pavlinec for Imas, 2008

The multi-purpose ergonomic shovel is a tool suitable for various jobs on the farm, in the garden or at home that require strength and efficiency. The inventive ergonomic shape of the shovel that weighs only 1.5 kg greatly reduces the need for bending and transfers pressure from the back to the legs. The light aluminium bar is coated with thermal PVC, providing good grip and thermal insulation, whereas the blade with systematically formed reinforcement allows a greater scoop and requires less force. As a result the shovel is rugged, light and highly stable, even when loaded.



Siti armchair, design: Arne Vehovar for Zilio Aldo & C. Sas, 2004

Since the mid 1990s, architect Arne Vehovar and his associates have helped shape Slovene design significantly, particularly in the planning and design of furniture. The Siti armchair with a solid beech frame and a back and seat in moulded beech plywood, is designed for easy storage and stacking, saving precious space if necessary. This is one of the few wooden armchairs that provides real comfort. The finishing varies, available as natural, coloured or lacquered.



Wall Coatrack, design: Toni Kancilja, 1999

The construction of this wall-mounted coat rack, consisting of a row of carrying and supporting pegs, represents a well-conceived play of balance, functionality, and beauty, with no extraneous elements. Its perfection lies in the exemplary concept and simple form.



Taurus Electro G2 glider, design: Ivo Boscarol and team for Pipistrel, 2008

World-renowned Pipistrel is known for their high-end ultralight motorgliders. Just a few years ago the company launched a pioneering product called the Taurus Electro G2, the first electric two-seat aeroplane in the world. The aircraft is economical, quiet and emits no CO2. The engine and landing gear are completely retractable, thereby reducing air resistance and fuel consumption. The parallel seating makes the seats ergonomic and comfortable and facilitates adjustment of the cockpit according to the size and shape of the pilot. Pipistrel has also developed the Solar Trailer for road transport purposes. In favourable conditions, its powerful solar panels can recharge the glider's batteries in five hours.



Slim lamp, design: Bevk Perovič arhitekti for Vertigo Bird, 2008

Vertigo Bird is a contemporary Slovenian lighting brand established in 2008. Since its launch the company has worked intensively with both Slovenian and foreign designers to build a diverse and compelling lighting collection. The idea for the Slim lamp designed by Bevk Perovič architects combined a standard fluorescent tube and a ballast module. The bottle-shaped casing of the ballast module is the extension of a laser-cut aluminium pipe that aims to achieve optimum light emission. The result is a lamp of monolithic shape with an unusually slim body. It can be used as an office lamp, a free-standing lamp or a vertical-suspension wall lamp.



Holey Rocket stove, design: Rok Oblak, co-author: Larry Winiarski, 2009

Designer Rok Oblak developed the Holey Rocket vernacular stove in cooperation with different centres producing biomass briquettes worldwide. The unusual L-shaped combustion chamber and the position of briquettes improve the air flow and allow higher burning temperatures for toxic gasses and other substances; at the same time the shape enables simple adding of fuel during cooking. The open-source shape is simple to imitate and can be adjusted to existing stoves. In addition, existing pipes can also be used as a model for briquettes. The making of the Holey Rocket is cost-free. Because organic waste is used, it encourages sustainability and contributes to a cleaner environment.



Greenline 33 Hybrid Powerboat, design: Jernej and Japac Jakopin for Seaway Group, 2009

Seaway is the world's leading boat development and engineering company. In response to the global recession of 2008, the company began to develop a vision aligned along changing values in contemporary boating, resulting in the hybrid Greenline 33. The primary feature of this special 10-metre craft is its hybrid power (electric or diesel) co-generated by roof-mounted solar panels, which recharge the batteries throughout the day. As a result, the Greenline 33 sails without noise, smoke and unnecessary carbon dioxide emissions. The special Superdisplacement™ shape of the hull combines a safe and comfortable voyage with little resistance, which means a pleasurable time onboard and low fuel consumption.



Gwig lamp, design: Asobi for Intra lighting, 2006

Intra lighting is an international company based in Miren specialised in the manufacture of architectural lighting and lighting systems. The pendant Gwig lamp is a result of cooperation between Intra lighting and Asobi Design Studio. The unusual LED lamp has the appearance of special "ambient jewellery". The idea for a miniature lamp that would function as an aesthetic element in a space gave birth to three independent LED diodes in an aluminium core that, like a transparent floating module, combines high technology with the futuristic-looking object.



Stabi XL and S turntable, design: Franc Kuzma for Kuzma, 1998 and 1999

The Kuzma company has long left a unique mark in music technology for home environments, producing analogue turntables and tonearms for over 20 years. In the second half of the 1990s they developed the Stabi S turntable, followed by the Stabi XL, the massive form of which still induces respect. The Stabi S turntable excels in its minimalist design. All features influencing the sound are executed without any compromise whatsoever, like the rigid connection between the pivot of the platter and the tonearm base. Nor is there anything redundant about the Stabi XL either – everything is governed by function. Because of its mass, this supreme turntable that weighs as much as 80 kg (the massive platter weighs 24 kg) does not need any suspension, only a strong and stable base.



Black Cherry Lamp, design: Nika Zupanc for La Femme at la Maison Nika Zupanc, 2010

In her work, designer Nika Zupanc persistently reinterprets stereotypical, everyday objects as she thematizes the role of women in the predominantly masculine world of design. The Black Cherry Lamp is a modular assembly of lamps that pays homage to "every single cherry in the world blessed with a shape that is simple and mysterious at the same time". The suspended lamp is made of a blown glass bulb hanging on metal tubing. The lamp is available as a single cherry, twin cherries or triplets.



Alpina Racing Elite CL and CS, design: Jure Miklavc, Jan Jagodič, Robert Križnar for Alpina, 2008

For many years manufacturer Alpina has worked in cooperation with industrial designer Jure Miklavc who, with constructor Robert Križnar and graphic designer Jan Jagodič, designed two of Alpina's most innovative and technologically refined products: the Flite

CS and CL model cross country ski boots. Intended for competitors and advanced recreational skiers, they are suitable for both classic and skating techniques and represent the latest evolutionary developments and a long racing heritage. The boots are designed to ensure optimum power transmission with minimum energy loss. They are distinguished by their light weight, ergonomic volume, good flex, excellent torsional stability, simple on and off, and innovative lacing system.



[Kawasaki ZX10-10R Evolution exhaust system, design: Igor Akrapovič and team for Akrapovič, 2008](#)

The Akrapovič company is a leader in the design of exhaust systems for motorcycles and sports cars. Their Kawasaki ZX10 Evolution model represents an important turning point in the company's development. The model's advantage over the original exhaust system is its 10 percent increase in engine power while weighing in 60 percent lighter thanks to the use of titanium as a construction material. The company's Hydroforming process has made possible a new pointed hexagonal shape for the muffler as well as the production of new bends in the pipes, which were developed for optimising the flow of exhaust fumes. The system was designed for racing purposes, but a similar European road version is also available.



[WaveFlex Skis Series, design: Gigodesign in collaboration with the Elan research department for Elan, 2011](#)

Elan produces premium engineered ski equipment, featuring high-end design and performance. Their innovations like WaveFlex™ technology have set new milestones in the ski industry. Elan SLX WaveFlex Fusion delivers everything needed for a superior slalom experience. SLX skis display a characteristic design with a wave-like profile and are fast and stable on the slopes. WaveFlex technology makes for easier turns, RST for acceleration out of the turns, Response Frame Woodcore for stability and Dual Titanium and carbon reinforcement for superior edge control.



[Qbiss One with ArtMe modular façade, design: Trimo, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Gorenje Design Studio for Trimo, 2009](#)

Trimo is one of Europe's leading companies offering complete solutions in the area of fireproof roofs and facades. In the field the company is regarded not only as a market leader, but also as a trendsetter and a highly innovative company, as proven by their numerous international awards. The modular façade Qbiss One intertwines the purity of architectural form and comprehensive technical solutions. With its emphasised joint the Qbiss One is the right answer for projects where simple, accomplished forms combined with functionality and fast assembly are required. ArtMe Façade design uses new façade surface reshaping technology that enables the architect or designer to complement the façade cladding with a preferred design.



[Gorenje home appliances, design: Gorenje Design Studio for Gorenje](#)

The Gorenje Group is a leading European manufacturer of household appliances, and its trademark has served as a symbol of quality for over 60 years. Apart from technological perfection and energy efficiency of the household appliances programme, the company's vision over the last few years has been increasingly directed towards sustainable development and excellence of design. The exhibition presents three of their latest innovations: the HomeCHEF electronic control module with large colour display that introduces advanced electronic touch control for ovens, the SensoCARE washing machine as part of the latest generation of Gorenje washing machines and dryers and Gorenje IQcook technology with user-minded preset cooking modes, including IQsteam mode for healthy cooking that simplify the dish preparation and change entirely the way we cook.



[Sitty folding chair, design: Gigodesign, implementation: Petrič, 2009](#)

The Sitty folding chair is a rational design solution for public areas because it takes up a very minimum of space. With a single pull, it is put in the sitting position; once standing again, the seat automatically retracts into a vertical position, freeing the surrounding space. The chair's load bearing capacity carries up to 150 kg, it dries quickly after a rain, and the water washes the seat clean so no additional cleaning is necessary. It is highly suitable for public and private urban areas where other solutions cannot be used, such as city centres, train and bus stations, marinas and airports. Sitty is a pilot project of Gigodesign, a leading Slovene design studio founded in 2000.



Eclipse bags and jewellery, design: Lara Bohinc for Lara Bohinc, 2007

Lara Bohinc is a company headquartered in London that creates and distributes high quality luxury goods by designer Lara Bohinc. Born in Slovenia, Bohinc is one of the most innovative and exciting jewellers working in fashion today. She retains a deep respect for the traditional principles of her craft, but also draws on her knowledge of industrial techniques and materials to revitalise her jewellery design.

Her design is simultaneously classical and contemporary, there is something searingly modern about her bold use of precious metals and unbranded, knotted leather handbags as seen in the Eclipse collection, which after just a few years since its launch is already considered design classic.



Criatura shoes, Leonora Jakovljević for Leonora Mark – Ave Femina, 2005

Leonora Mark - Ave Femina shoes are devised as opuses rather than dictated by the order of seasonal collections. Leonora Jakovljević creates shoes according to principles better known in art circles, with production collections assembled in the artist's portfolio. The Criatura opus was inspired by a world of fairytales and mystical forests, and is made of deer and horse fur further enhanced by horn buttons. The fur is not cut and normally keeps the shape dictated by its own qualities rather than the

form of a shoe. These shoes are made manually, by hand, in all phases of production; are designed to please the eye and hand as well as the feet.



Fin, Dea and Luna Chairs, design: Rok Kuhar and Katjuša Kranjec for Stol & Stol, 2011

Stol, one of the furniture giants in the former Yugoslavia, is currently developing a new series of contract furniture. The new series of chairs designed by Rok Kuhar and Katjuša Kranjec are based on existing factory moulds while the plywood is later treated by cutting and turning it into entirely new compositions. The chair series includes plywood furniture, upholstered chairs, chaises lounges and armchairs. The designers found the beauty of the design process in the transformation of the existing and took the limitations of the project as a creative,

constructive challenge.

Date and opening hours

22 March–28 April 2013

Monday-Friday, 10.00-18.00, Saturday and Sunday, 11.00-18.00.

Location

Design Austria, Designforum Wien, MQ, Museumsplatz 1, 1070 Wien, Austria

Organisation

Museum of Architecture and Design, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Curator: Maja Vardjan

<http://www.mao.si>

<http://www.silentrevolutions.si>

Skica, Slovenski kulturno-informacijski center, www.skica.at

Coordinators

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Slovenia

Ministry of the Economic Development and Technology Republic of Slovenia

Public Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Entrepreneurship

Government Communication Office

Additional information and photos

Anja Zorko: anja.zorko@mao.si, T: +386 1 5484 273 / 270

Pika Leban: pika.leban@mao.si, T: +386 1 5484 274 / 270