



POLISH DESIGN EXHIBITION INVITED TO VENTURA LAMBRATE 2011 AT SALONE DEL MOBILE, MILAN

curators: AGNIESZKA JACOBSON-CIELECKA and PAWEŁ GROBELNY
organisation: THE REGIONAL MUSEUM IN STALOWA WOLA

In April 2011, during Salone del Mobile in Milan UNPOLISHED 6 – YOUNG DESIGN FROM POLAND / MILAN exhibition will be presented. Young Polish designers are invited to show their achievements at Ventura Lambrate 2011 together with other well-known designers, design institutions and schools from around the world.

The exhibition will present the most interesting objects and ideas of young Polish designers, representative for the Polish contemporary scene and will show characteristic features of Polish latest design. The invitation for Poles to take part in one of the most important European reviews proves that contemporary Polish design is attractive for the sophisticated European audience.

The exhibition is curated by Agnieszka Jacobson-Cielecka and Paweł Grobelny, experts in Polish and international design.

UNPOLISHED 6 – YOUNG DESIGN FROM POLAND / MILAN exhibition, was first presented in Brussels in 2009 during the Design September festival. For the last 2 years it has been shown in European design centres, venues and festivals successfully promoting Polish design and designers. At Ventura Lambrate the Polish exhibition will be presented together with other exhibitions from Belgium, Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Italy, Israel and Japan.

For the first time we have presented the works of Polish designers in September 2009 at Design September in Brussels. Polish achievements, confronted with those of others, were perceived as new, fresh and interesting both by professionals and the general public and, in consequence, the exhibition was invited by other design centres. We have learnt that Polish contemporary design is worth presenting and interesting for sophisticated European public, explains Agnieszka Jacobson-Cielecka, curator of the exhibition. Each edition of the exhibition is different and updated – all the time new designs are created, new designers appear, but the Milan edition is unique – it presents what is best and most representative for the Polish design work.

Majority of the designers presenting their works at the exhibition belong to 30-something generation – according to the curators, the most interesting group of Polish designers. Well educated, they not only design but also produce and promote their own work.

While choosing works and designers, we were looking for the most characteristic elements of Polish design, features that distinguish us from other designers. When preparing for such exhibitions, we always have to answer the question: what do we want to prove exactly? That the Poles design like everyone else? Or that they design differently? says the curator of the exhibition, Agnieszka Jacobson-Cielecka. The process of creation and choice of materials is certainly different. In Poland, we have limited access to modern materials and technologies. Therefore, designers use inexpensive, natural and easily available materials such as wood, OSB and MDF, felt or recycled materials. They mainly produce their work themselves or with the help of the local craftsmen, normally only producing a very limited number of copies. The majority of the works on display at the exhibition are prototypes, unique copies or limited series.

Some of the artists are inspired by the Polish tradition, material culture or craft. They use generally available materials and traditional production methods, like for example the raw wood used by Gogo, Malafor, Bartosz Mucha. The innovative part is the scale of the object or its function. Many works are characterized by jokes, irony, balancing on the edge between design and art, a perverse sense of humour or distance to classical definitions of design. Such are the works of Agnieszka Bar or Beton. Yet another motif is the fascination with material and production technology, particularly visible in the designs of Magdalena Trzcionka or Karina Marusińska. First and foremost, it is the emotions that characterise their works that link the artists chosen by the exhibition curators.

At the exhibition UNPOLISHED 6 – YOUNG DESIGN FROM POLAND / MILAN we will see works of 12 designers or design groups, which are most representative for the Polish contemporary design: **Agnieszka Bar, AZE design (Anna Kotowicz-Puszkarewicz + Artur Puszkarewicz), Beton (Marta Rowińska + Lech Rowiński), Agnieszka Czop i Joanna Rusin, Gogo (Maria Makowska + Piotr Stolarski), Kosmos Project (Ewa Bochen + Maciej Jelski), Bogdan Kosak, Malafor (Agata Kulik-Pomorska + Paweł Pomorski), Karina Marusińska, Poor Design (Bartosz Mucha), Monika Patuszyńska, Magdalena Trzcionka.**

The exhibition UNPOLISHED 6 – YOUNG DESIGN FROM POLAND / MILAN is organised by the Regional Museum in Stalowa Wola, Poland (www.muzeum.stalowawola.pl) in cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Rome (www.rzym.polemb.net) and Adam Mickiewicz Institute, Poland (www.iam.pl + www.culture.pl).

UNPOLISHED 6 – YOUNG DESIGN FROM POLAND / MILAN

12–17 April 2011

Collective Location, Via Massimiano 6, 20134 Milan, Italy

www.venturalambrate.com

www.unpolished.pl

AGNIESZKA JACOBSON-CIELECKA – curator of many exhibitions and a journalist, expert and populariser of contemporary design. Since 2008 art director and curator of the Łódź Design Festival (www.lodzdesign.com). She works closely with many cultural institutions in Poland and abroad, organizing Polish and international design exhibitions, among others: UNPOLISHED – YOUNG DESIGN FROM POLAND together with Paweł Grobelny (2009), NATURAL RESOURCES OF POLISH DESIGN (2009), POLSKA FOLK (2010), MATERIA PRIMA (2010), DZIECINADA – DESIGN FOR CHILDREN (2010). Promotion of design and designers plays an important role in her professional life – she lectures and publishes in trade, opinion-forming and consumer magazines. In 2000 she launched the Polish edition of Elle Decoration and was its editor-in-chief until 2007. She is a graduate of Faculty of Painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk.

PAWEŁ GROBELNY – designer and curator of design exhibitions, graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań, scholarship recipient to the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-arts de Paris, École Nationale des Beaux-arts de Lyon, the French government as well as the Le Pont Neuf foundation in Paris. He is the winner of many design competitions including the “LVMH Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy for Young Creators 2005/2006”, “Parckdesign 2008”, “Prodeco 2006 – Young Designer”, “Prodeco 2008”, “Machina Design Award 2009” as well as recipient of an honourable mention in the competition “The new subjectivity in design” organized by the Zachęta National Gallery in Warsaw and the British Council. In 2009 nominated to 100 Young Creative Talents during the UE year of creativity and innovation. He designed benches at Albertine park in Brussels and Zhongshan in Shanghai and many public interiors in Poland, Belgium, France and Spain. His works have been exhibited in Berlin, Brussels, Copenhagen, New York, Paris, Seoul and Tokyo.

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