

Next Market In -

CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE DESIGN PROJECT

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Contemporary
Japanese
Design



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Credit

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Date of Publication

January 2017

Publisher

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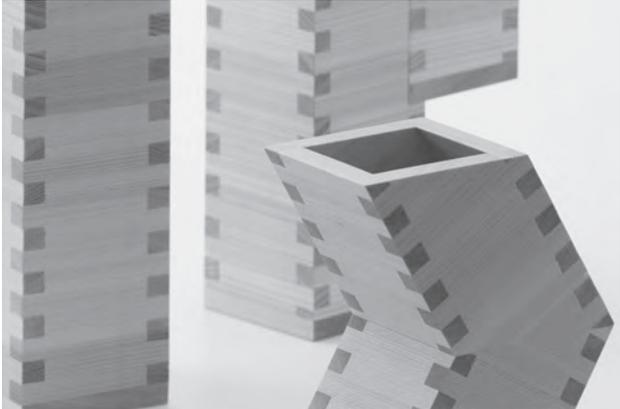
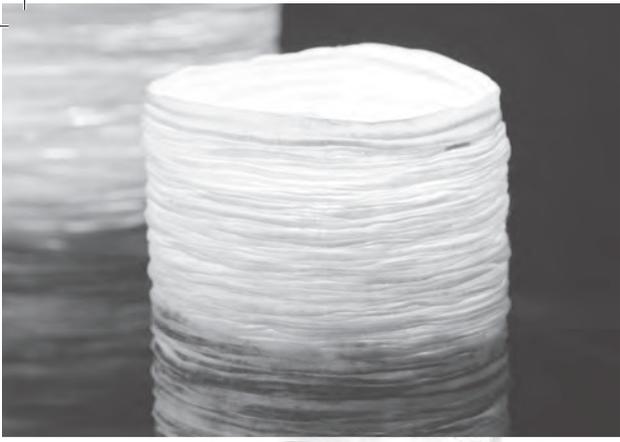
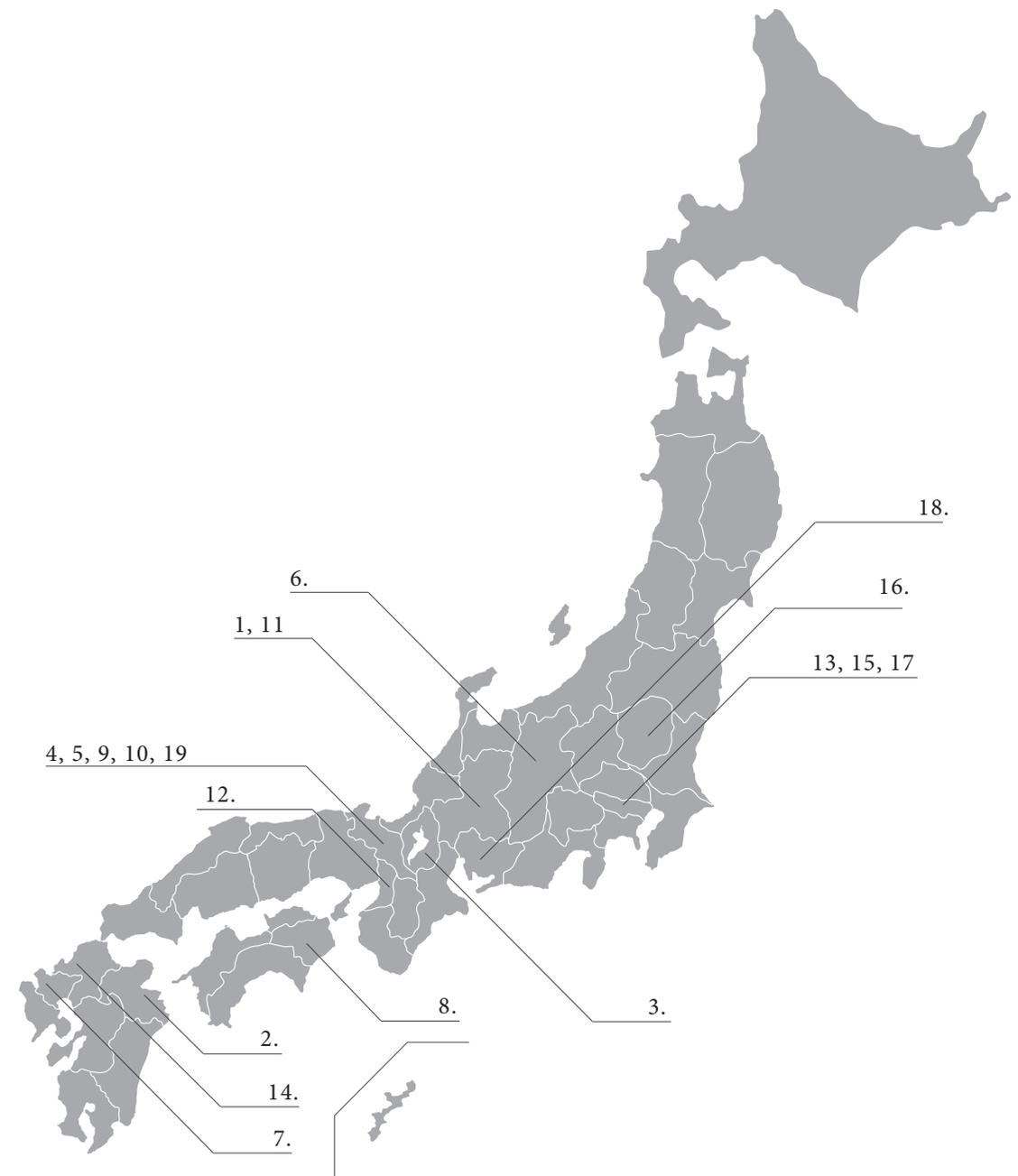


Table of Contents

- 06 Exhibitors List
- 08 Japan - Tradition and Innovation
- 09 Contemporary Japanese Design Project
- 10 Product Collection
- 48 Global Collaborations
- 52 Project Members

Exhibitors List

0. MANUFACTURER / *Category* / Location / *Designer*
1. ASANO / *Table Lamp* / Gifu / *Elisabeth Vidal*
2. CHIKUFUSHA / *Tableware* / Oita / *Becca Abbe (Package)*
3. DAIKO / *Tableware* / Shiga / *Matthew Waldman*
4. DAITOU SHINGU / *Baby Goods* / Kyoto / *Wolf Wagner*
5. ISUKE / *Tableware* / Kyoto / *Wolf Wagner*
6. KANEKIN / *Tableware* / Nagano / *Elisabeth Vidal*
7. KIHARA / *Display tool* / Saga / *Wolf Wagner*
8. KINUYA / *Stationary* / Tokushima / *Elisabeth Vidal*
9. KUMAGAI / *Tableware* / Kyoto / *Matthew Waldman*
10. KUROI / *Lamp* / Kyoto / *Wolf Wagner*
11. OHASHI / *Vase* / Gifu / *Matthew Waldman*
12. PAPER WORLD / *Box* / Osaka / *Becca Abbe*
13. RYUKOBO / *Tableware* / Tokyo / *Matthew Waldman*
14. SOEJIMA / *Interior* / Fukuoka / *Becca Abbe (Graphic)*
15. TAMANOHADA / *Soap* / Tokyo / *Elisabeth Vidal*
16. TSUKAMOTO / *Tableware* / Tochigi / *Elisabeth Vidal*
17. TOMITA / *Tablecloths* / Tokyo / *Wolf Wagner*
18. YAMAGAMI / *Lamp* / Aichi / *Becca Abbe*
19. YOSHIHA / *Tableware* / Kyoto / *Wolf Wagner*





Japan - Tradition and Innovation

Japan. The long passage of time has made for a unique history and culture here. Spring, summer, fall, winter, all transition distinctly; a culture of craftsmanship continuing for hundreds of years among this rich natural beauty.

Japan. Cutting-edge technology is born here. Innovation in the industries of electronics, automobiles, and robotics make Japan a world leader.

In the Metropolis of Tokyo, it is unbelievably advanced. The automated features of the city; the latest fashions, creations, and technologies; or pop culture including manga, one cannot help but be filled with excitement and surprise.

In the ancient capital of Kyoto, surrounded by an amazing atmosphere that makes palpable tradition and culture, one finds oneself moved. Hospitality; the face of the city that changes with the seasons; the beauty of a traditional cityscape centered around temples and shrines; and traditional arts, entertainment, and spirituality are all born of a seemingly eternal history.

The coexistence of tradition and innovation is one of Japan's unique points. It could be said that it forms Japan's identity.

The Contemporary Japanese Design Project.

We want to merge Japanese tradition and innovation and make more global and exciting creations.

The Contemporary Japanese Design Project (CJD-P) was begun with this concept in mind. We gathered 19 companies; manufacturers and craftsmen with excellent proprietary techniques from various places around Japan. We built a wide network of experienced advisors and distributors from U.S.A, France and Germany. Under the conceptual banner of "tradition is continuing innovation," the CJD-P started in 2015 as an international project with the support of the Japanese government.

Japanese craftsmen and manufacturers and the international advisors and designers all met in Japan and shared a variety of experiences and emotions. In February of 2017, after a full year of hard effort, the crystallization of this creative work will be unveiled at the premiere US trade show, NY NOW. We will introduce beautifully innovative and functional products.

Please have a look at the creativity and skill of the CJD-P Team.



Title: BABLIGHT

Designer: Elisabeth Vidal

Reminiscent of the Edison bulb, Bablight is a portable and wireless lamp combining warm and natural materials, it can be used in many situations, on a bedside table, in a living room, for a tête à tête dinner, a child's bedroom,...

The marvelous technology of 3d foldable paper surfaces of the Asano company makes the Bablight a contemporary iconic object made with traditional skills.

Established in Gifu City in 1917, Asano Shoten was originally a manufacture of paper fans. Today we are Japan's leading paper lantern manufacturer. We proactively work on planning and development of new paper lanterns made with our craftsmen's expertise.

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Title: Bamboo tray / Bamboo plate

Designer: Becca Abbe (package)

Madake bamboo grown in Beppu is one of a kind. Perhaps it is the volcanic climate of Kyushu that causes it to grow so well. The unusually long sections between the nodes of Beppu bamboo stalks make it the ideal material for weaving. Because of this, bamboo crafts in the region have thrived since the Muromachi era (1392-1573). Studio Chikufusha honors this history by continuing with the same tools and methods developed by the original masters of the craft. Traditional techniques are carefully used to create inventive new weaving patterns. Each item included in this collection displays a different way of thinking with bamboo.

The warmth of the hands of the creator is passed on to the user. We produce craft products such as bamboo plates and hand baskets for everyday use which make our daily lives just a little bit sweeter. Using Madake grown in Oita Prefecture, we create by trial and error everyday with the intention of producing artifacts which are simple and will provide some peace of mind to our everyday lives.

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Title: KUREDARU [cradle] + matching placemats

Designer: Matthew Waldman

The “KUREDARU [cradle]” is an innovative centerpiece for any table – a hand-woven bamboo mat set with natural tension across an elegant metal frame creates not just a striking form, but a natural way to keep fruit fresh with natural airflow.

Placemats

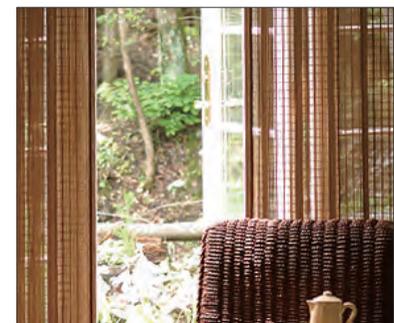
The bamboo placemats are created to be beautiful expressions of the ages old art of sudare, weaving natural fibers harvested locally and seasonally into useful statements of beauty and craft.

Daiko Sangyo implements innovations so as to suit contemporary lifestyles, while carefully preserving traditions such as the beauty and solemn tranquility of sudare blinds, which have been part of people's lives for centuries.

Our products create luxurious spaces for special occasions, such as in restaurants and luxury inns, as well as personal private spaces, or the refined and stately environments of shrines and temples. Also, we are drawing great attention for both the techniques we use and the magnificent results they create. Our products are in use on Shinkansen bullet train windows, and have gotten a highly positive response.

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Title: Kyoto Mensya Baby Blanket and Niginigi

Designer: Wolf Wagner

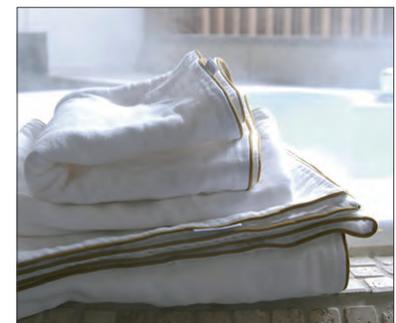
Every item in the collection is made by hand using traditional Japanese techniques and dyed naturally, without bleaching or chemical processing. The results is super soft, all-natural babywear that will last long after our first steps.

Promoting better sleep: Daitou, the sleep laboratory & factory

Daitou Shingu Kogyo was established in 1925. Ever since, we have offered bedding and lifestyle items as a laboratory and factory dedicated to creating comfortable sleep and relaxation environments.

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Title: IMPRESSION

Designer: Wolf Wagner

The ISUKE brand is known for Urushi vessels and Urushi varnishes.

The vessels of the IMPRESSION series are given their own space by Wolf with their especially brilliant varnishes. The focus of Wolf's design for Isuke is directed inwards to intensify the focus on the beauty of the color.

The vessels can be used for different purposes – for example food, jewelry or odds and ends. The lid is centrally viewable, which makes finding the contents easy – it can be grasped well without the need for further grip elements. The vessels are offered in three diameters: 18.0 cm, 24.0 cm and 30.5 cm.

ISUKE has 180 years' history in the field of Japanese natural lacquer "urushi" in Kyoto. Nowadays we have gained wide popularity in the market, incorporating design and functions which match well in modern life. We originally propose contemporary tableware that is made from our historic techniques and new design. We established "isuke" as a new lacquer brand, with the cooperation of domestic and overseas designers.

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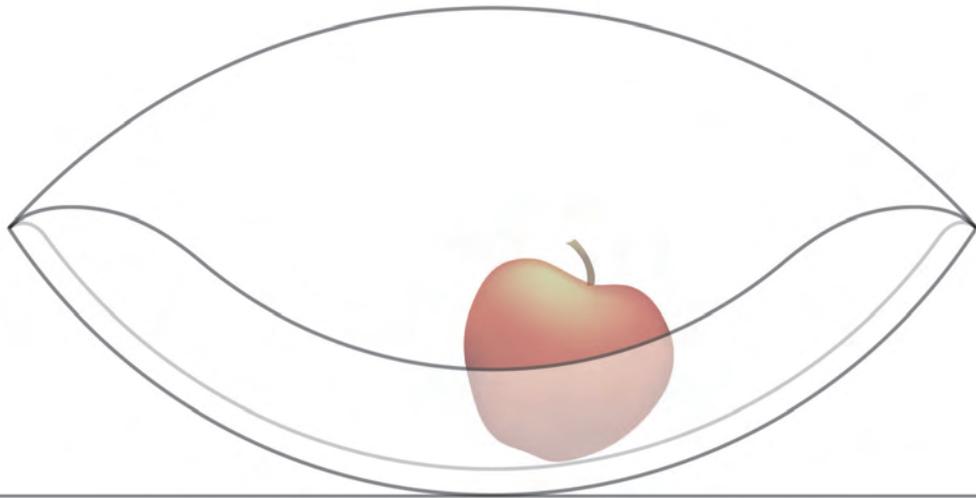
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Title: DONDO

Designer: Elisabeth Vidal

At Kanekin, Ogura San oversees the production process from the tree choice in the forest to the final turned object. Over many generations his family has been involved in both small as well as larger wood turned tableware. Kijibachi, a large food preparation bowl, one of the main Kanekin products has been the starting point of an exploration towards new possibilities of large diameter turned wood. Dondo's concept is built from dividing the plate into three equal pieces, from one singular magnificent turned piece, the outcome are three balancing fruit baskets. Dondo basket has a front and a back exposing the rich colors of fruits in front of wooden scenery. The design is finished with natural or red urushi.



Founded in 1876 (Meiji 9) and incorporated in 1976 (Showa 51), we are a Nagiso woodturning shop engaged in the manufacturing and distribution of wheel-carved wooden vessels in a village of kijishi (woodturners) in Nagiso Town, Kiso County, Nagano Prefecture. Nagiso wood turning, originating 1,000 years ago in the Heian period, is a traditional craft designated by the government under the Act on the Promotion of Traditional Craft Industries. The wooden vessels are characterized by the beauty of their effectively used grain of wood. While our manufacturing and distribution are focused on Western tableware such as wooden dishes and salad bowls, we have recently developed diffraction-type cylindrical speakers using woodturning techniques.

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Title: Cyber Physical Display

Designer: Wolf Wagner

The Kihara brand from the Arita region is based on a long tradition of original Japanese porcelain manufacturing.

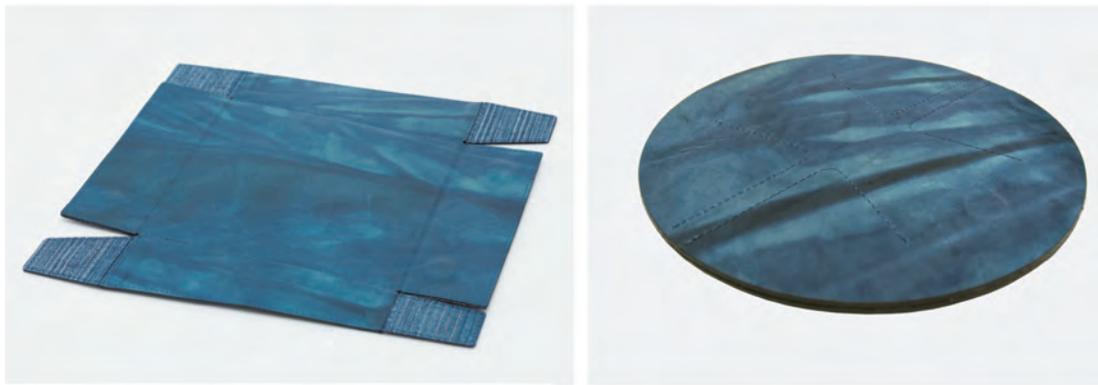
Wolf developed a new display for Kihara, which a hitherto not possible merchandise and brand experience in shops and at exhibitions. The display shows core brands of the brand from Arita, placing material and product at the forefront of the orchestration. An integrated tablet computer provides the story contents. The content conceived by Wolf and his team appears individually, which makes local physical/digital marketing possible in the trade for the first time. Wolf calls this new medium "Cyber Physical Display" or "CPD". You will see more of it in the future. Visit www.cpdisplay.net/kihara/1

KIHARA, INC. is a Japanese porcelain producing company based in Arita; a well know historical porcelain industrial area with a 400 year history. When you see Arita porcelain products, you realize how they differ from other porcelain, especially in the tone of white and beautiful artwork. There was a time when, through the VOC (Dutch East India Company), a great deal of Arita porcelain was imported to Europe. Arita now has traditional techniques that have remained unchanged for 400 year mixed with modern techniques like 3D shape designing & machining in porcelain. Now the time has come to show new types of Arita porcelain demonstrating an accumulation of fresh techniques combined with the original craftsman tradition. We are continually searching for new and innovative ways to introduce Arita porcelain to the world and are looking to the next 400 years.

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Title: **BLUGARDEN / BLUMOON**

Designer: **Elisabeth Vidal**

At Kinuya, Yamada San challenged indigo mastery by dyeing leather.

Last year we introduced IndigU textures, emphasizing the human gesture, the beauty of difference, the unicity into the indigo dyed leather. This project focuses on our neutral and generally technical office environments where IndigU leather expression, natural and vivid finds its own place.

Blugarden and Blumoon are conceived for nomadic work lifestyles and sharing desks. They are flat objects that are easy to carry in a briefcase, which then becomes three dimensional while adapting to their function. Blugarden lets you store your personal objects, while Blumoon is above all a business cards holder. Made of IndigU leather combined with shijira-ori textile from Tokushima, they enhance the beauty of shades that the Indigo dyeing leather process offers.

History of Kinuya

"Kinuya" in Tokushima celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2012.

The main product of Kinuya is kimono (traditional Japanese clothing). While utilizing traditional crafts' dyeing techniques and designs, as well as ornaments and arts cultivated through kimono production, we propose products that enrich modern life.

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Title: HITOTACHI

Designer: Matthew Waldman

Kyoyaki, or the art of Kyoto style ceramics is a traditional craft that has maintained its beauty and contemporary feeling. Matthew Waldman designed this beverage serving set initially inspired by sake serving vessels and the many forms of Kyoyaki to encompass any and all types of drinks, from Japanese sake to fine scotch. The form is as ergonomic as it is elegant and evokes the modern lines of evolving skylines.

"KUMAGAI Co., Ltd. founded in 1935 and located in Kyoto prefecture, is specialized in Kyoto ware(-Kyoyaki-Kiyomizuyaki). We have been expanding our network with many ceramic artists and pottery producers proposing new items. From tableware such as teacups, plates and bowls, we also produce tea utensils, incense burners and decorative objects and picture frames. In addition, we customize accessories like pendants, small articles for sewing and Buddhist altar fittings based on clients' requirements. We dedicate our every work to promoting Japanese traditional arts to Japan as well as to the world, and bringing people happiness and great sensation."

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Title: FRAME

Designer: Wolf Wagner

The traditional interior light of Japan is made of washi, stretched on a rectangular frame. With the FRAME design, Wolf reinterprets the traditional Japanese luminaire design. The new form is opened to give the washi's individuality and beauty full attention from all sides and to obtain a higher light output. The washi is attached to FRAME on separate wire frames. The frames are connected by the user with compact plastic clips. This makes FRAME compact and easy and efficient to ship.

The locally available E26 mountings and illuminants are suitable as light fixtures for FRAME. Frame will be offered as a ceiling lamp and a floor lamp.

Since our formation in 1952, Kuroi Electric has been growing as an innovative company, maintaining originality and ingenuity. We have always given the highest priority to the development of new products.

Building on this track record, we have begun to develop and sell products under our own brand name. At the same time, we have established a new company specializing in sales and focusing on product development that more closely responds to customer needs.

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Title: Cypress Flower Highrise

Designer: Matthew Waldman

Masu cypress cups are used for sake and celebrations in Japan for hundreds of years. Inspired by this, Matthew has created a centerpiece for any table – an architectural set of flower vases evoking the majestic heights the Japanese Hinoki grows and the skyline of Manhattan.

Most flower vases are glass or ceramic. Cypress is an unconventional and unique material to feature the beauty of every season.

No flowers? Use these containers to present silverware, chopsticks, utensils and napkins for a bold design statement.

For over 60 years our company has been the leading manufacturer of traditional hand-crafted "Masu" boxes in Ogaki, Japan. Over 80% of all Masu boxes produced are made here. We have made these traditional Masu products as interior design elements in your everyday life.

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Title: Layerboard Box

Designer: Becca Abbe

Through precise engineering and high quality materials, Layerboard Box Series have nearly no visible seams. Only a thin cut along the front face indicates that the box lid can be lifted. Opening the top along its paper hinge, reveals a cross-section of the layered paper walls. What may have appeared to be a subdued gray box, in fact has brightly colored details. The boxes are variably sized to contain the things we hold dear: small 4items, accessories, letters, and papers.

Paper World specializes in designing, manufacturing and selling paper and cardboard products; packages, signs, and other shipping supplies are our specialties. Lifestyle brand "Paper Design" was established in 2016 to introduce ideas to make our living/work space better with paper products.

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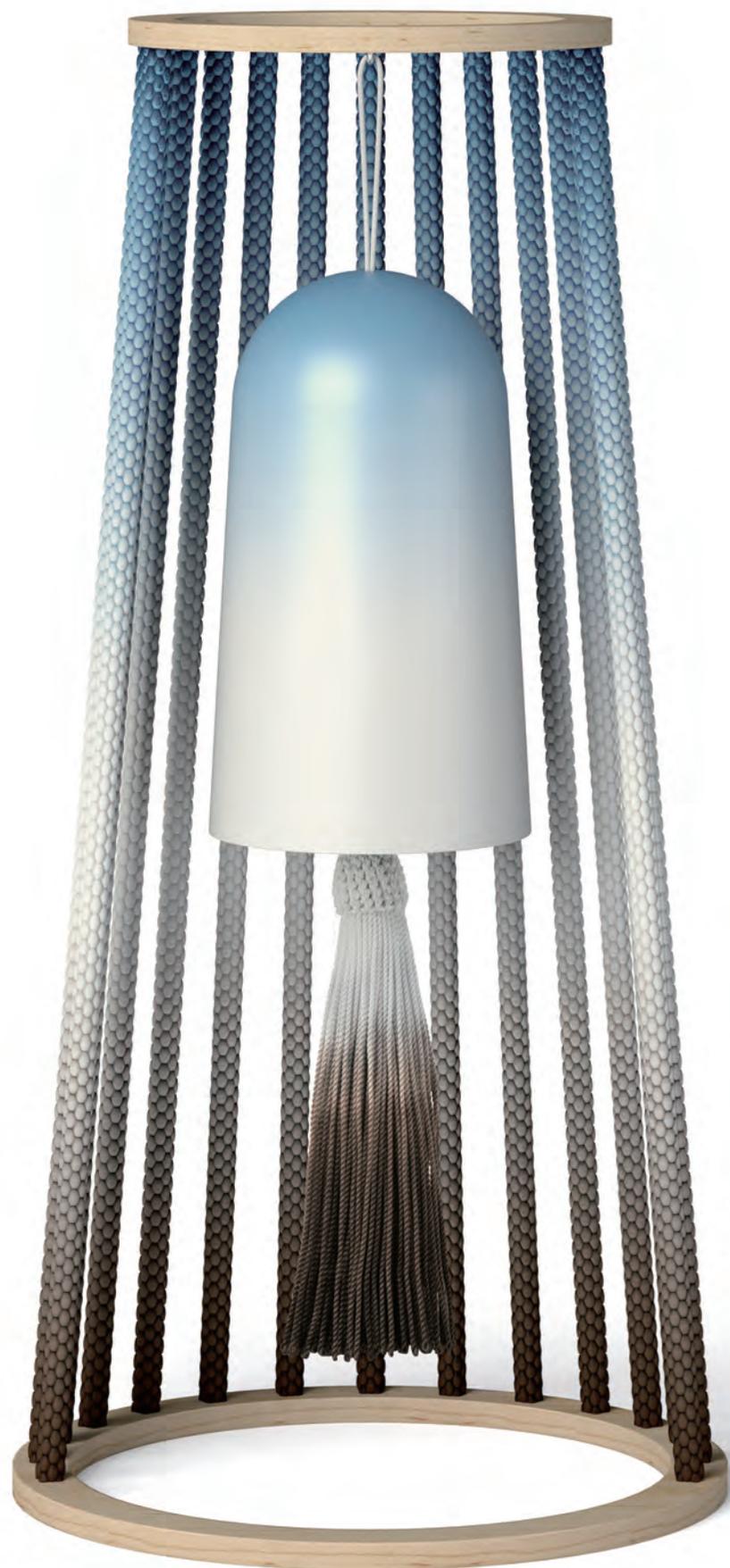
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Title: Tabletop Belltower

Designer: Matthew Waldman

Kumihimo is the ancient art of macrame cords used for centuries in Japanese fashion and interiors. Utilizing the hollow core of some weaves of kumihimo, Waldman designed a tabletop bell tower where the structural elements are dressed in kumihimo. Use it to start new traditions for your home – call your friends and family to dinner, or just leave by an open window to hear music with the wind.

Silk kuminimo (braid) is a silk product that is made by crossing more than 800 silk threads, and its technique has been handed down since the 6th century, Asuka and Nara periods. Kinu-kumihimo (silk kumihimo) is a unique Japanese culture, and has practicality in its strong elasticity. It has, therefore, been used in samurai's armor, taking advantage of its characteristics. Its brilliant and rich colors of shiny silk material has also been valued in ornaments of shrines, Buddhist rites, tea ceremony tools, as well as craft arts.

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Title: Igusa Collection

Designer: Becca Abbe (Graphic)

The igusa reed (*Juncus effusus*) is the raw material for tatami mats, well known to all Japanese. Igusa reeds are slightly pliable, so that they give and are safe when children fall over. In addition, they maintain a comfortable atmosphere in a room by absorbing carbon dioxide and humidity, and acting as heat insulators. They muffle and insulate against noise but also its calming scent of natural plant material creates an effect of being in the woods.

For 400 years the Chikugo region of Kyushu has been famous for tatami production. In particular, Soejima Isao Shoten is a well-established company developing products using Japanese igusa. Recently, a large quantity of Chinese-made tatami has been imported into Japan. However, because there are persisting problems from the agricultural chemicals used in its cultivation, there is no real confidence in its safety. On the other hand, Soejima Isao Shoten, by using domestic igusa and by maintaining consistent control over production, has earned a high level of trust within Japan.

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Title: T&K

Designer: Elisabeth Vidal

Once upon a time, in ancient Japan, Taihaku and Keiwaku were the names given to Venus and Mars. While one planet represents the divinity of love and beauty, the other one represents the divinity of thunder and rain, both related to fertility, renaissance and regeneration. This object expressing male and female features, is made of two complementary fragrances. Its unique and mysterious shapes are connected by a natural linen rope. T&K is an object to carry, hang and share for daily body care.

Shaped by « tama », a delicate and spherical soap, Tamanohada core image carries a strong symbolic related to protection, continuity, energy, fluidity and pureness. T&K concept comes out of the desire to emphasize this tama expression in a new way. T&K soaps are designed in the image of planets, presented in a box made of natural materials, making it perfect for gifting.

TAMANOHADA was originally established in the Edo period (current Tokyo) in 1892. It started with cosmetic soaps, and now is a soap manufacturing company that has a history of over 120 years. Over the course of our long history, we cultivated production technology that has achieved wide acclaim in the industry. Since our formation, we have produced thousands of Japanese premium soaps for other companies by commission, many of which are globally recognized brands. Starting in 2003, Tamanohada started our own original brand TAMANOHADA. By focusing on the needs of each consumer, and using the knowledge and technology of over 120 years, we constantly develop new products.

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Title: SHORE

Designer: Elisabeth Vidal

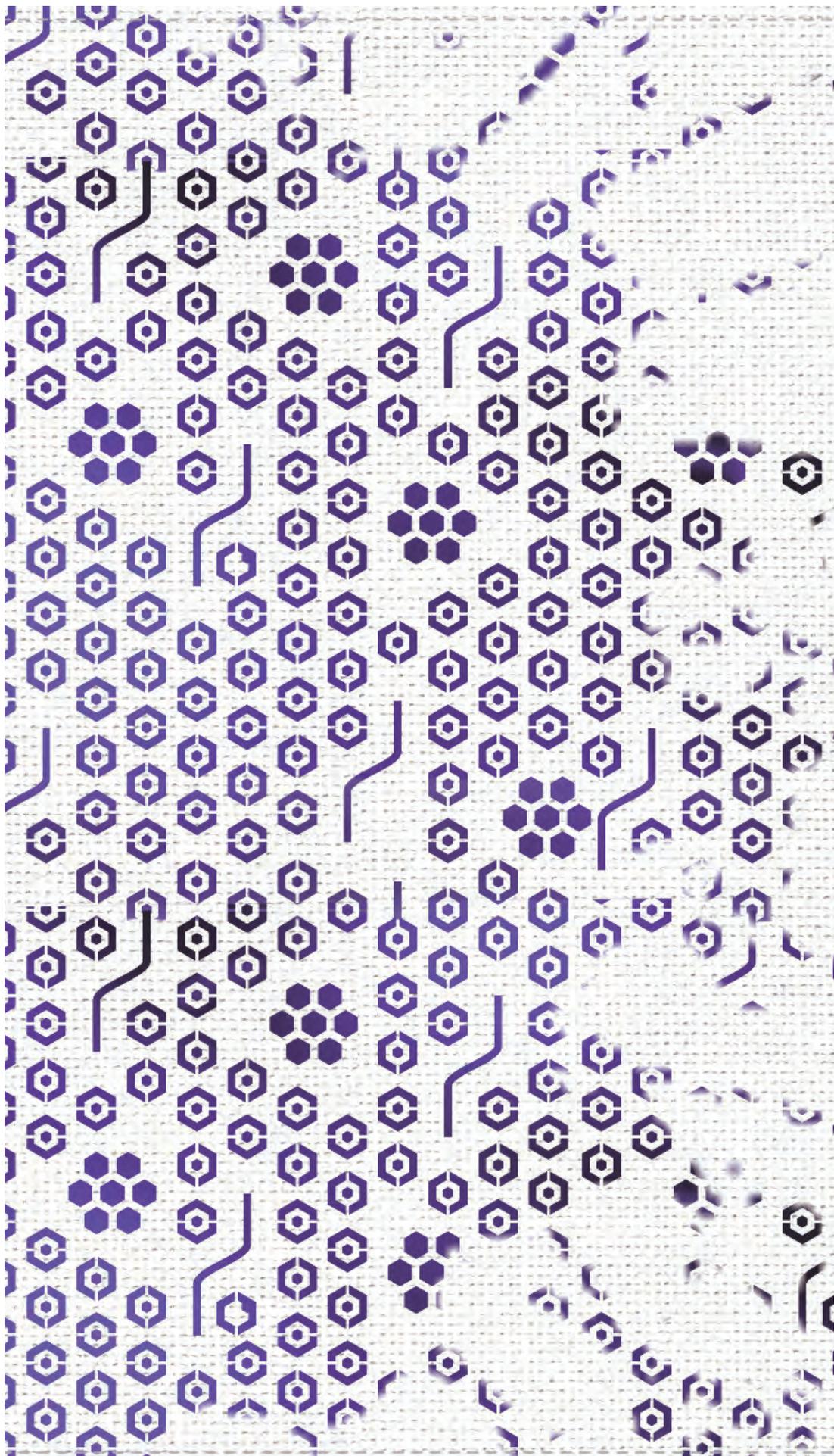
Shore is a round plate designed for Tsukamoto brand, presenting on its top an organic shaped high relief food frame border which might create some starting point to arrange the plate. The new combination of clay and glaze used by Tsukamoto underlines this food frame and its harmonious contrast with the outer geometric and circular shape. The plate is unglazed on its reverse enriching the tactility. The Tsukamoto brand, part of Mashiko-yaki School, is involved in Industrial Tourism by promoting their ancestral ceramic skills and ceramic innovation.

We are a kiln with a 150-year history stretching back to 1864. Adhering to the traditional glazes and techniques of Mashiko, we are proud to present the original brand Rihei, in a series that makes optimal use of the warmth and texture of clay while maintaining a rustic flavor in simply designed products that suit contemporary lifestyles.

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Title: BONAPP

Designer: Wolf Wagner

Tomita has produced textiles in traditional screenprint technology for generations.

For Tomita, Wolf modified the method of printing, which gives each table cloth/table set a slightly individual character, but at the same time he maintains the important element of repetition associated with Japanese pattern. There are table cloths of different sizes and table sets, all made of cotton and featuring a new design BONAPP.

We have been operating a traditional Japanese technique of dyeing garment of kimono for nearly 100 years. We currently specialize in scarves and stoles for men and women and make them the same way as in the olden days, but with a contemporary touch. Our products are crafted completely by hand and you can be assured of our high quality.

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Title: 50/50 Lamp

Designer: Becca Abbe

This table lamp is made of Arimatsu Narumi shibori which is a traditional craft of Japan. After dyeing the fabric, we solidified the fabric with resin. We developed a light and easy-to-use shade without frame.

Arimatsu Narumi shibori is an artisanal tradition featuring unique techniques cultivated over our 400-year history. At Yamagami Shoten, it is our mission to enrich contemporary lifestyles with these techniques and their rich cultural background. There are about 100 different varieties of tie-dyeing techniques in the shibori tradition, but by combining not only dyeing but also shaping treatments (such as heat setting, salt shrinkage, and fulling), opal processing, and so forth, it is possible to express things with materials in new and innovative ways. We hope you will experience the wonders created when meticulous handcrafting, traditional techniques, and cutting-edge secondary processing methods unite, as they do in our products.

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Title: NAOKO Coaster

Designer: Walf Wagner

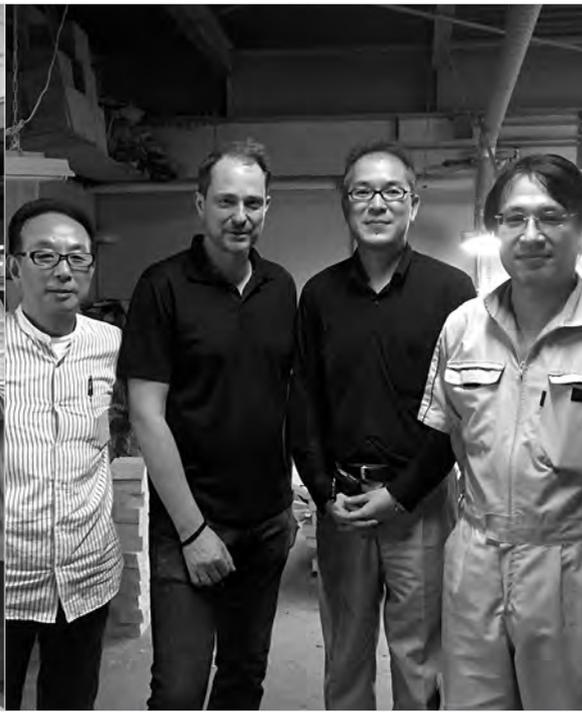
For YOHEY, one of the leading manufacturers of traditional tea ceremony items, Wolf has designed coasters. These coasters allow the teapots of Yoshiha Yohey to be combined with western table culture. In addition, the cast metal coasters can also be used with other teapots. The coasters are available in two sizes.

This is the third generation of a branch family of Onishi of the Ten Craftsmen of Sen House, which itself has continued since its first generation over 400 years ago. "We want to preserve and pass down traditional techniques." With this thought, we hope that many people can learn the flavor afforded by metalware and see the 'beauty in use' of items close to them. Everything with a shape decays, and iron is no different. We sincerely hope that you can enjoy that process.

CONTACT:

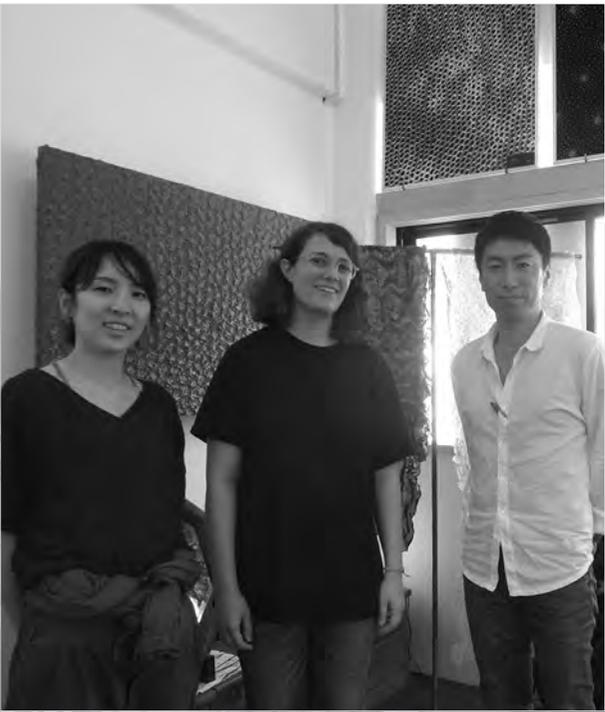
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GLOBAL COLLABORATIONS





GLOBAL COLLABORATIONS



Project Members

HEADQUARTERS

Main Coordinator



Kotaro Nishibori (Japan)

TCI Representative Kotaro Nishibori has developed foreign-oriented designer products and spread them into the markets of 15 new countries, all while running the long-established Kyoto store, Hiyoshiya. With that track record as a base, he was tasked with planning and managing the cultivation of international trade in Kyoto and led the program to success in European and Chinese markets. Our enterprise's fundamental goal is to spread this to the whole country.

International Advisor (Distributor)



Peter Kahane (U.S.A) Founder of AMEICO Inc.

Ameico is the premiere US multi-line design distribution company, with US distribution of such brands as &Tradition, Banshu Hamono, Braun timepieces, Danese Milano, OMY, Original BTC, Produzione Privata, Rosendahl and IZIPIZI, among others. Their distribution reach is to all major museum stores, design and concept stores, department stores, specialized contemporary lighting retailers and other higher-end US retailers, both brick & mortar and on-line.

Project Coordinator



Satoru Nakajima (Japan) Director of Sestante Inc.

SATORU NAKAJIMA is the founder and the president of Sestante Inc., a small but experienced design consulting company. In 1992, Satoru Nakajima graduated from Brera Academy of Fine Arts in Milano, Italy. After returning to Japan, he worked as a director of the Milano head office of an Italian business consulting company, and founded his own company, Sestante Inc., undertaking various project management stages from product planning to design, PR and the planning and implementation of a sales strategy. Recently, Nakajima has poured his efforts into a project to nurture young creators and to promote local industry in Japan. From 2010 through 2016 he has been directing SIRI SIRI, a Japanese contemporary jewelry brand which design is based on Japanese traditional craftsmanship and sense of beauty. From 2015, Nakajima is working as an adviser for the development of new bamboo crafted products in Beppu (Beppu city, Oita prefecture).

Coordinator



Takuya Hotta (Japan)

CEO of Culture Generation Japan Co., Ltd / T.C.I. Laboratory, LLC.

Takuya Hotta is a founder and CEO of Culture Genration Japan Co., Ltd. MBA in Monaco University. The company provides business consulting for manufactures who wish to offer their local products to a global market. We assist them in each phase with funding, business and brand development. CGJ has undertaken many government projects and accomplished a great success to introduce Japanese brands to a global, especially European market.



Isao Kitabayashi (Japan)

CEO of COS KYOTO Co., Ltd.
T.C.I Laboratory / Founder of Design Week Kyoto

Isao Kitabayashi is a founder and CEO of COS KYOTO Co., Ltd. His concept of business is "from local industry to global cultural industry". COS KYOTO has planned many projects with local companies and governments to create new business scheme, especially West Coast market in US. Based on same idea, he holds "Design Week Kyoto"(open factory event) in every February. He was one of TEDxKyoto Directors until 2014.

INTERNATIONAL DESIGNERS

(*in alphabetical order)



Becca Abbe (USA)

Becca Abbe's design practice – based physically in New York City as CDXS & bbbecca.net – radiates through diverse media-types that share a dedication to typography as a common feature. Highlighting a rigorous, systematic approach in even the most adventurous design concepts, Abbe's methodology serves to amplify the visual voices who form her client-base: artists, designers, creative directors, exhibition spaces, and other outré ocular communicators. Long staffed at A4 – the graphic design team at North American textile firm Maharam – Abbe has recently transitioned to independent work, with plans to co-found a creative agency forthcoming.



Elisabeth Vidal (France)

Elisabeth graduated at the Ecole Supérieure de Design Industriel in Paris and received a Master's Degree at Domus Academy in Milan in 1990. First teaching assistant, she started her designer profession in 1993 in the Netherlands, with projects related to agriculture. Back in Milan in 1994, she worked for Susani&Trimarchi and for Isao Hosoe Design, on projects related to office furniture, travelling interiors and tableware. In 1998 she created her own studio in Milan, specialized in the design of objects and retail context, collaborating with companies from Italy and abroad. In 2012, she set up her business in Montpellier, her native city, in southern France. Her work is characterized by the gentleness of form, the studies of gestures and their innovation, the rigor of detail.



Wolf Wagner (Germany)

Founder and managing Director of Studio Wagner:Design
Director of International Industry of the German Designer Club (DDC)
Member of German Japan Society (DJG)

Wolf U. Wagner, 50 is owner and managing director of Studio Wagner:Design in Frankfurt/Main. Studio Wagner:Design develops products for brands, assists companies in all stages of product development, cares for brands as a creative full-service agency. Wolf relies on the tradition of German design and his own methods to create products. Wolf studied architecture and industrial design in Germany and the UK, and is a guest lecturer at universities. Studio Wagner:Design has been awarded more than 40 design awards. Wolf is a member of several award juries. More information: www.wagner-design.de The credo of Wolf: Life is creation!

Photograph
by Frank Blümler



Matthew Waldman (USA)

Over 30 years of interdisciplinary design work has made Matthew Waldman one of the world's most respected designers. Matthew's "techno-optimistic" work is driven by his belief that technology enables universal communication. He is best known for NOOKA, where he designed accessories and watches that reinvented how time was told, as well as creating award winning eco-friendly package design. Before NOOKA, Matthew gained recognition as a pioneer in digital interactive and UX design, founding New York Zoom in 1997, building an award winning global team at Reuters in 2002, and with his interactive design studio, Berrymatch. Matthew has spoken at CES, the Chief Innovation Officer Summit, and the PSFK Conference; and taught at the Parsons' School of Design and the Smithsonian Cooper Hewitt Museum and does workshops at universities and conferences globally. www.matthewwaldman.com

