



Airpouf Lorenzo Damiani Lycra, polyurethane, hoover 220V Diam: 65cm (25 1/nin) Campeggi srl, Italy www.campeggisrl.it

Airpouf is a seat-cumhousehold appliance — a fully upholstered sphere with three holes filled with contrasting coloured balls. When in use as a vacuum cleaner, the balls fly out to reveal a draft tube, start button and air vent.

#### Brush and dustpan, Tokey

Babled and Co. Standard injection H: 22cm (8 1/sin) W: 22cm (8 1/sin) D: 3cm (1 1/sin) Viceversa, Italy www.viceversa.com



Electrolux's Trilobite 2.0' robotic vacuum takes just 40 minutes to clean a 4 x 4.5m (14 x 15ft) room, leaving the user free to sit and relax. Infrared and ultrasonic sensors map out the contours of the room, avoiding obstacles; even a wine glass is safe left on the floor. Once complete, or when the batteries run low, the vacuum cleaner will automatically return to its floor recharging station.



#### Vacuum cleaner, Trilobite

Inez Ljunggren ABS plastic H: 13cm (5 ½in) Diam: 35cm (13 ½in) Electrolux AB, Sweden www.electrolux.com





Glass, Stream Emmanuel Babled Crystal H: 22cm (8 1/sin) Baccarat, France www.baccarat.fr





Vase, Memore Konstantin Grcic Lead crystal with over 24% PbO H: 31cm (12 1/ain) W: 10cm (3 1/ein) D: 12.5cm (4 1/ein) Arnolfo di Cambio − Compagnia Italiana del Cristallo SpA, Italy www.arnolfodicambio.com



Candleholder, Punch

Karim Rashid Lead crystal with over 24% PbO H: 11.3cm (4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>6</sub>in) D: 17cm (6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>6</sub>in) Arnolfo di Cambio – Compagnia Italiana del Cristallo SpA, Italy www.arnolfodicambio.com



# Goblets, Laetitia

Michele De Lucchi with Alberto Nason Lead crystal with over 24% PbO Various dimensions Arnolfo di Cambio -Compagnia Italiana del Cristallo SpA, Italy www.amolfodicambio.com

Vase, Spring Megalit Emmanuel Babled Hand-blown glass H: 50cm (19 1/2 in) Diam: 40cm (15 1/2 in) Venini SpA, Italy www.venini.com







# Bowl, Fresh Fat Tom Dixon Extruded woven plastic H: 33cm (13in) Diam: 66cm (26in) Tom Dixon, UK www.tomdixon.net





Hypnos range Emmanuel Babled Crystal and Corian® Various dimensions Baccarat, France www.baccarat.fr



#### Accessories, containers, 01 02 03 Tamar Ben David Injection moulded in structural techno-

polymer
H:6,20 or 24cm
(6½,7½ or 9½in)
Diam:59,67 or 8ocm
(23½,26½ or 31½in)
Alias SpA, Italy
www.aliasdesign.it



# Vases, Opal Rock

Kate Hume
Glass
H:35cm (13 1/4in)
W:37cm (14 1/4in)
D:35cm (13 1/4in)
Kate Hume Glass,
the Netherlands
www.katehumeglass.com



#### Vase, Medusa Johanna Grawunder Hand-modelled, blown transparent glass H:25cm (9 1/2 in) W:35cm (13 1/3 in) Salviati, Italy www.salviati.com



Seating, Osorom Konstantin Grcio Multi-layered technopolymer composite Diam: 120cm (47in) Moroso SpA, Italy www.maroso.it

## Konstantin Grcic

#### Which of your designs to date would you like to be remembered by?

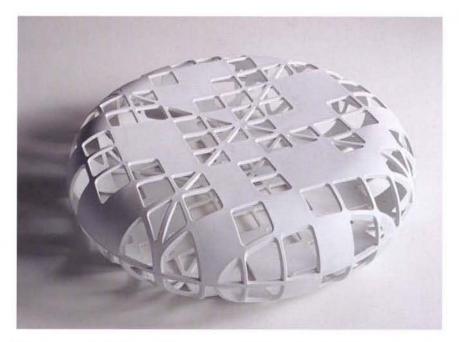
Naturally I'd think that my more recent pieces would represent me best, like 'Chair\_One' (Magis) or 'Miura' (Plank). But then there are older projects, like 'MAYDAY' (Flos) or my glasses for littala, which have been milestones in my career. I find it hard to extract singular items from the whole body of work. All of it is part of a larger meta-project - including the failures.

#### How do you think others view your work?

It always amazes me when people say that they can recognize certain handwriting or a recurring gesture in my work. The most common attribute that people see in my work is that of simplicity and rigour. It surprises me that the work comes across so clear and seemingly evident, since the process of designing it is rather difficult and unclear.

#### Which designer has influenced you the most and why?

There have been so many - and I still continue to be inspired by a lot of other designers. There are the 'larger than life' ones, like Joe Colombo, Achille Castiglioni, Ettore Sottsass, Dieter Rams and Philippe Starck. And then there are the 'life-size' ones, designers who I know personally, designers I collaborate with, friends. I guess I have always been influenced by both types. If I have to name just one it has to be Jasper Morrison. He was the first real



designer I met (when I was still a student), which means that I have known him for all my professional life. Jasper is important to me, because he taught me to think before designing. His work is always driven by the intelligence of how he approaches a project.

#### What role do you think the designer has in society today?

This question shouldn't really be discussed from within the design world. Our perspective tends to slightly overrate the importance of what design is: Anyway, as designers we create products which become part of people's lives. So I guess our role is definitively very close to society. Ideally, design should be adding quality to life - often, though, quite the opposite is true!

#### Do you buy a lot of design pieces?

I don't buy a lot, because I generally don't care much about possessing things. However, if I buy an object or a piece of furniture my choice is usually for contemporary design. The last piece I bought was Philippe Starck's 'La Marie' chair (Kartell).

#### Is there a design in your home that you couldn't live without?

I have a small wooden chair that is a present from a friend, designer Mats Theselius. What makes the chair so special is that it is somehow shrunk to an awkwardly narrow proportion and painted beige with fake wood grain drawn on top. I love this chair and I would never trade it for any other.

#### What do you consider to be the best piece of design since the millennium?

Jean Nouvel's 'Less' table for Unifor is sensational. For me it is the table of all time.

#### Is there someone we should be watching out for? Definitively Kram/Weisshaar and definitively Stefan Diez

#### Is the cult of the personality taking over the design world?

In principle I think there is nothing wrong with it. Design is made by people for people. I am finding it. relevant to talk not only about products, but also about the people who are behind the work. Star-cult may be an extreme, but I don't think it will ever threaten to take over the design world. In fact, I am really glad we have overcome those times when design was an anonymous industry that had recipes and rules. It's good that today's design world has real people with real attitude!



#### Emmanuel Babled Corian® Game table. H: 35cm (13 1/sin) D: 150cm (59in); Chair. H: 45cm (17 1/Jin) W:80cm (31in) L: 90cm (35in); Stool, H: 28cm (11in) D: 60cm (23 1/sin); Lamp, H: 20cm (7 1/in) Diam: 100cm (391/iin)

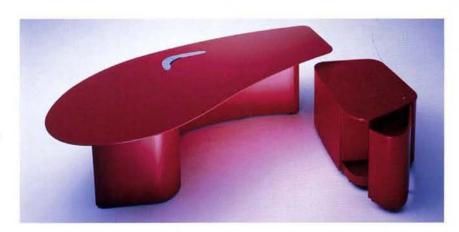
Emmanuel Babled, Italy

Joker Lounge range

#### **Tables and Chairs**

# Executive workplace, MEG – Meda **Executive Group**

Alberto Meda Powder-coated MDF, glass-fibred plastic, aluminium H: 72cm (283/sin) W: 115cm (45in) L:260cm (102in) Vitra, Switzerland www.vitra.com



Table, Pigreco Emmanuel Babled Polyurethane, solid oak, steel H:74cm (29 1/sin) W: 92cm (36in) L: 200cm (79in) Felicerossi srl, Italy www.felicerossi.it

#### Chair, YU

Setsu and Shinobu Ito Rotationally moulded polyethylene H: 72cm (28 1/sin) W:58cm (22 1/sin) D: 55cm (213/iin) Felicerossi srl, Italy www.felicerossi.it



#### Coffee table, Grande Foglia

Marco Romanelli and Marta Laudani Oak plywood top and epoxy powder-coated iron or aluminium frame H: 18cm (7½in) W: 54cm (21½in) D: 38cm (15in) Montina srl, Italy www.montina.it



#### Decanter, Blob

Karim Rashid Glass H: 26cm (10 '/ain) Diam: 18cm (7 '/ain) Leonardo, Germany www.leonardo.de

#### Decanter, Spoo

Karim Rashid Glass H: 25cm (9 <sup>1</sup>/ein) Diam: 14.5cm (3 <sup>1</sup>/ein) Leonardo, Germany www.leonardo.de

#### Decanter, Dive

Karim Rashid Glass H: 31cm (12 1/4in) Diam: 13cm (5 1/4in) Leonardo, Germany www.leonardo.de

Since the formula of mixing salt (sodium), bones (calcium) and sand (silica) to make glass was discovered over 4500 years ago, it has become a lasting source of inspiration for artisans and designers. It is an insulator, has an elastic quality, is transparent and – although it looks light - cubic metre for cubic metre its weight is equivalent to that of Portland stone. Glass has a life and the process of its manipulation for many designers is as important as the object created. Karim Rashid believes glass to be the most beautiful natural material in the contemporary environment. The sensual curves and ethereal quality of the graded colours of his 'Leonardo' series are intended to 'emphasize the need for beauty and material, through soft, solid, ergonomic, desirable forms'. However, it is Emmanuel Babled who has the greatest respect for the character, poetry and mysteries of glass. His hand-blown vases are all produced in Murano, Italy, by a master craftsman to Babled's design. For him it is the glass itself that determines the outcome of a piece, the designer and blower being merely servants to the wishes of the material. A large part of the end result cannot be predetermined, and it is this tension between the human desire and the moment of creation that he considers to be the most interesting aspect of working with glass. Changes can only be made at the last moment, in the furnace, while the glass is still malleable; the next second it crystallizes and becomes, as he puts it, 'fragile for the rest of eternity'. In his designs, he uses this instant to 'capture a fragment of emotion'.



## Bowl, Flip

Karim Rashid Glass H: 25cm (9 1/4ln) Diarn: 15cm (6in) Leonardo, Germany www.leonardo.de

### Bowl, Loop low

Karim Rashid Glass H: 20cm (7 1/ein) Diam: 29cm (11 1/ein) Leonardo, Germany www.leonardo.de

#### Bowl, Loop high

Karim Rashid Glass H: 25cm (9 1/4in) Diam: 23.5cm (9 1/4in) Leonardo, Germany www.leonardo.de



#### Glassware, Primaire No. IX

Emmanuel Babled Hand-blown glass Diam (average): 45cm (17 1/ain) Covo srl, Italy www.covo.com

#### Lighting

#### Table lamp, Spacelab

Emmanuel Babled Glass, metal 1 x max. 6oW Gg halogen dimmer H: 44cm (17 1/2 in) Diam: 33cm (13in) Venini SpA, Italy www.venini.com







Each of the forty transparent Pyrex tubes used in 'Fluxus' can rotate through 360 degrees, producing many different configurations from the same lamp. Since winning the Satellite prize at the 2000 Milan Furniture Fair, Paolo Ulian has been taken up by various leading manufacturers, who recognize in his work the right blend of technical expertise, experimentation and poetry. He is not interested in the merely elegant, but needs his designs to go that little bit further. He does not like to copy or reinterpret, preferring to find fresh means of arriving at a concept: 'It is precisely by following non-linear paths that you can achieve the definition of a good design." He is very interested in materials, and often sits an example on his desk for weeks on end, looking, feeling, questioning: 'Many of my objects are born by observing and manipulating new or traditional materials, by understanding totally their individual qualities. Through this process I sometimes discover - often accidentally - hidden properties or unexpected applications."





#### Table lamp, Kovac Lamp

Karim Rashid Hand-blown Murano glass, chrome-plated steel 1x75W bulb H: 45.7cm (18in) W: 40.5cm (16in) Karim Rashid Industrial Design, USA www.karimrashid.com