



DESIGNMUSEO

Designmuseet - Design Museum

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Taideteollisuusmuseon
säätiö

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Yuka Takahashi & Pekka Harni at Design Museum

On display in Design Museum's Gallery from August 27 until October 23 is a joint exhibition by the architect and designer couple **Pekka Harni** and **Yuka Takahashi**. Harni-Takahashi Oy, their architectural and design practice in Helsinki, concentrates on ecologically sustainable development in object and interior design and architecture. Harni and Takahashi have collaborated professionally since 2002, establishing their joint practice in 2007. Work by Harni-Takahashi Oy has been on show in various exhibitions both in Finland and abroad.

Recent work on display includes Tikas shelving (2009), a new wooden stool and tables (2011) and an LED task lamp (2011), all of which are based on the minimalist use of materials and careful structural design. Joint design work by the couple includes the HT lamp collection (2010), with woven lampshades employing steel wire warps made by art weaver Sirkka Paikkari. Employing a concept developed by Harni and Takahashi and realized by interior architect Timo Pitkänen, the VALOLABO lighting installation was made for the exhibition in association with the Saas Instruments Company. Work by Pekka Harni familiar to the public is represented by his Nero table currently produced by Arabia (designed in 1997, Design Plus award 1999) and the Meka (1999) and Solu (2007) printed fabrics designed by him for Marimekko Plc. Sanelma Hihnala, student of interior architecture, assisted in the design of the exhibition.

After graduating from the Kobe University of Design, industrial designer Yuka Takahashi worked as the head designer of a Japanese tool factory. She completed her master's degree in industrial design at the University of Art and Design Helsinki (present-day Aalto University School of Art and Design). In her work as a designer, Yuka Takahashi takes into account both practical and aesthetic considerations in a comprehensive manner. The exhibits include a collection of tools and implements designed by her, with focus on the logistics of manufacturing, economic factors, ease of assembly, ergonomic properties and useability. The idiom of form specific to Yuka Takahashi can be described as lyrically sensitive and balanced, of which a good example is her Moon tableware set (2007) designed for the Arabia factory.

For architect and industrial designer Pekka Harni, ecology and sustainable development constitute the core principles of design. Harni's utility objects and his in work spatial, architectural and interior design are informed by his skilled command of form and proportion, the application of efficient structural solutions and opportunities for geometric transformation. Characteristic features of his work are a subdued approach, minimalist use of materials and the utilization of traditional and renewable natural materials. Pekka Harni's latest publication, the book *Object Categories* (Aalto University, layout Takahashi) appeared in 2010. More information at www.harni-takahashi.com

The Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo has chosen Pekka Harni as Industrial Designer of the Year 2011. The Design Council of Finland has granted Pekka Harni an artist professorship and a 10-year artist grant beginning in 2012.

Further information and photo request:

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media kuvapankki

Design Museum's opening hours: 1 Sep – 31 May; Tue 11am–8pm, Wed–Sun 11am–6pm, Mon closed. 1 June – 31 Aug; Mon – Sun 11am–6pm.

Tickets: adults 8 €, pensioners 7€, students 3 €, children under 16 years old free of charge.

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