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In the frame

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In the frame

A sneak peak at what's to come at the HKDI this autumn



Konstantin Grcic

PICTURE CREDIT: MARIUS JANS

A FRONT ROW SEAT TO THE FUTURE

The chance to glimpse the future as seen through the eyes of an inspirational industrial designer such as Konstantin Grcic is not to be missed. Grcic is a German designer who trained as a cabinetmaker in England before studying at the Royal College of Art. He established his own studio in 1991 and now works with clients such as Muji, Nespresso and Vitra. His work has included internationally acclaimed pieces such as the Flos Mayday lamp in 1999, which won him the prestigious Compasso d'Oro industrial design award, and the Magis Chair_One in 2004. Today, his work features in the permanent collections of MoMA in New York and the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris.

"Konstantin Grcic - Panorama" is a collection of three large-scale installations, each depicting a vision of the future. Life Space offers a home setting that includes some of Grcic's designs along with some everyday objects. Work Space mirrors his own studio, with products and prototypes shown on a work table, while the Public Space area looks at the outdoor environment, complete with a 30m panorama that shows the designer's view of future urban space.

A fourth area, Object Space, shows a multitude of Grcic's products, prototypes and drawings alongside inspirations in the form of other design pieces, everyday items and found objects. The items create a visual timeline, showing the development of some of his products and his design thought-processes.

The exhibition was developed over the space of three years in collaboration with the Vitra Design Museum and Z33 - House for Contemporary Art in Hasselt, Belgium. It was originally shown at the Vitra Design Museum in 2014 before moving to other European art and design institutions. Its Asian debut at the Hong Kong Design Institute later this year gives students and design enthusiasts a chance to share in Grcic's vision.

Konstantin Grcic - Panorama

An Exhibition of the Vitra Design Museum and Z33 Hasselt November 26, 2016 to April 2, 2017, HKDI Gallery, HKDI



Miura, bar stool, Plank, 2005, Vitra Design Museum Collection, © KGID

PICTURE CREDIT: FLORIAN BOHR



Parrish Side Chair, Emeco, 2013, Vitra Design Museum Collection, © KGID

PICTURE CREDIT: EMECO, ANTHONY OLIVER

A BUILDING IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

The work of Pritzker Prize-winning architect Rafael Moneo has been described as both timeless and yet embodying both time and space. Considered one of the greatest Spanish contemporary architects, his modernist pieces retain a context to their past or surroundings that's often ignored by designers, making each piece unique and yet in his style. Some of his standout pieces include the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles, USA, the National Museum of Roman Art in Mérida, Spain, and the Atocha railway station in Madrid, Spain.

Not just a respected architect, Moneo is also a writer, teacher and critic, sharing his theories and studies with students at colleges around the world including universities in Madrid and Barcelona, and the Harvard Graduate School of Design. As Robert Campbell, architecture critic of *The Boston Globe* explains in his essay, Moneo behaves as a novelist when describing his buildings. "He tends to establish a point of view from which the experience of the architecture is perceived," says Campbell. "The point of view is that of the visitor to the building, a fictional character imagined by Moneo. Seldom does he describe a building as an autonomous artifact. Instead, it is an event in the life of a witness or, more likely, a sequence of events."

This Hong Kong exhibition, which has been curated by Francisco González de Canales, professor of the Architectural Association in London, is the first major retrospective of the architect's work and includes



Kursaal Congress Centre and Auditorium

a series of models, photographs and drawings spanning his entire career. It documents Moneo's development and thinking through what have been some of the most turbulent cultural changes we have seen in architecture. The exhibition was first displayed at the Fundación Barrié headquarters in La Coruña, Spain, in 2013, before embarking on an international tour. It opens to the public in Hong Kong at d-mart on October 22.

Rafael Moneo: A Theoretical Reflection from the Professional Practice. Archive Materials (1961-2013)

An Exhibition by Fundación Barrié and Estudio Rafael Moneo October 22, 2016 - January 14, 2017 d-mart, HKDI



Rafael Moneo