

studio tolk cologne

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studio

wolfgang tolk works in the midst of a balance between two worlds of expression: design on the one hand and visual arts on the other. at the basis of his work are the highest possible aesthetic and ergonomic standards. as a designer, his intention focuses on both form and function, combined with a skeptical attitude to dogmatic appearances of any sort.

his concepts are minimal and reduced, almost sculptural with sensual qualities, and they bear witness to an unconventional approach to the material used, which often leads to interesting surprises.

the studio he founded in 1996 works in accordance with these principles. the main aspects of its work deal with the creation of new products in furniture design. the studio takes on tasks related to the area of objects, and solutions are found just as they are in the quest for emotions and interactions. the aim is to find new paths and to direct the work of visual arts as closely towards human life as possible, mostly as a free play in an experimental sense.

biography

wolfgang tolk studied at braunschweig school of art (hochschule für bildende künste). in 1981, he changed to the academy of fine arts in düsseldorf.

tolk has designed the halogen lamp „minimum“ which was put on display in various european museums. in 1989, it was added to the collection of the museum of applied arts in cologne, germany.

since 1990, he has realised prototypes of minimalist, linear objects, mostly in stainless steel and wood, in addition to his work as an artist. his works have been exhibited in cologne, chicago, milan and kortrijk, belgium. he co-operates with italian companies such as allglas, boffi, cappellini, living divani und porro.

wolfgang tolk lives and works in cologne, germany.

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solo exhibitions

- 1984 berlin, droysen gallery
berlin, kreutzmann gallery
- 1985 esslingen, municipal gallery
- 1988 cologne, artothek
luebeck, metta linde gallery
- 1990 berlin, neue raeume gallery
- 1991 berlin, heidi springfeld gallery
- 1993 berlin, heidi springfeld gallery
- 1994 cologne, brigitte schenk gallery
radolfzell, vayhinger gallery
bonn, posselt gallery
cologne, haus buergers
- 1995 cologne, brigitte schenk gallery
- 1997 cologne, brigitte schenk gallery with felim egan
cologne, buchhandlung walther koenig;
cologne, pesch-intermoebel;
cologne, brigitte schenk gallery
- 1998 bonn, posselt gallery
kortrijk belgium, gyselinck gallery
- 1999 cologne, brigitte schenk gallery
- 2004 cologne, „we are here“, installation buchhandlung
walther koenig
- 2007 cologne, „norbert wangen +wolfgang tolk“, installation buchhandlung walther koenig

group exhibitions

- 1985 cologne, kunsthalle „koeln-kunst“
- 1987 berlin, kreutzmann gallery
berlin, heidi springfeld gallery
- 1989 cologne, museum of applied arts
- 1990 frankfurt, messehalle, „experimente 1“
- 1991 cologne, „halogen“, museum of applied arts
frankfurt, museum of applied arts
munich, villa stuck

- 1992 duesseldorf, und gallery
kiel, cultural centre of the state schleswig - holstein,
salzau
- 1993 radolfzell, „aspekte der malerei“, vayhinger gallery
- 1995 cologne, kunsthalle, „koeln-kunst“;
radolfzell, „aspekte der malerei“, vayhinger gallery
- 1996 cologne, „landschaft“, brigitte schenk gallery
cologne, „merry christmas“, buchmann gallery
- 1997 kiel, „bild räume“, cultural centre of the state Salzau
- 1998 cologne, „casa Italiana“ with cappellini,
pesch-intermöbel
- 1999 cologne, „die farbe blau“, brigitte schenk gallery
- 2001 köln, „gatherer and hunter“, brigitte schenk gallery
bonn posselt gallery
- 2003 duesseldorf, „jeder hat sein eigenes wasser“, halle 6
christine hoelz gallery
- 2007 duesseldorf, „malerei“, halle 6, christine hoelz gallery

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public collections

collection deutsche suedzucker ag, karlsruhe, 1985
museum of applied arts cologne, 1987
museum ludwig, cologne 1987
collection of the city of cologne, 1988
collection cramer, warsteiner brauerei, warstein, 1988
collection rtl, television cologne 1989
collection halogen, museum of applied arts cologne, 1991
collection ibm, stuttgart, 1991
museum of the state of schleswig holstein, kiel, 1991
collection of the state schleswig holstein, 1991
collection siemens kulturfond, munich, 1993
collection of stadtparkasse koeln, cologne, 1994
collection of aok, cologne, 1995
collection of the parliament of germany, bonn, 1995
collection of the state schleswig holstein, kiel 1997
collection design center of chicago, chicago, usa, 1997
collection wasserturm hotel, cologne 2000
collection cappellini design center milan italy, 2001

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publications

catalogues / books

catalogue „koeln kunst“ , cologne 1985;
kreutzmann gallery catalogue, berlin 1987;
cramer collection catalogue, warstein 1988;
lothar romain, rainer haarmann, catalogue „wolfgang tolk“,
metta linde gallery, luebeck 1988;
catalogue „jahresgaben 88“, kunstverein heidelberg, heidelberg, 1988;
catalogue „design im 20. jahrhundert“, museum of applied arts, cologne 1989;
catalogue „blau“, kaleidoscope of a colour, kunstverein heidelberg, heidelberg, 1990;
„normen des designs, „ein wegweiser von a - z“, museum of applied arts, cologne cologne 1990;
catalogue „experimente 1“, frankfurt, 1990;
catalogue „halogen, 20 jahre neues licht“, museum of applied arts, cologne,
museum of applied arts, frankfurt, 1991;
catalogue „mappenwerke 1990 - 1992“, edition salzau, kiel 1992;
gabriele lueg, manfred schneckenburger, catalogue „wolfgang tolk - aus buechern“ brigitt
schenk gallery, cologne and vayhinger gallery, radolfzell 1994;
catalogue „best of experimente“, furniture fair frankfurt, frankfurt 1994;
catalogue „koeln kunst IV“, stadtparkasse koeln, cologne, 1995;
jens peter koerver, catalogue wolfgang tolk „aus der mitte heraus“ edition posselt gallery, bonn,
sept. 1998;
catalogue „less is more, quattro architetti per una casa semplice“, porro, montesolaro, italy
1998;
soledad lorenzo, „new european furniture design“, arian mostaedi ed., barcelona, spain, 1999
catalogue cappellini collezione, arosio, italy 1999 - 2002
eva karcher, manuela von perfall, „italienisches design - von den anfängen bis zur gegenwart“,
heyne verlag, germany 2000
hubertus butin, catalogue „wolfgang tolk“, edition haarmann, castello di lucignano, italy - ger-
many 2001;
catalogue „urban view“, porro, montesolaro, italy, 2002
catalogue „kitchenology 2“, boffi, italy 2003;
franco bertoni, „minimalistisches design“, birkenhauser, basel - boston - berlin, 2004

editions

„nr XIII - XIX“, 7 xylographies, edition haarmann, bonn 1988;
„nr XX XXVI“, xylographies, edition salzau, kiel 1991;
„trikorfo“, d -lithographic print, edition atelier 28 cologne, cologne 1999

radio / television

abendschau sfb tv, berlin at 2.july 1987;
radio 100,6, berlin at 2. july 1987;
ndr radio, luebeck at 7. Oct. 19

awards

best of experimente, frankfurt, lamp „minimum“ 1994;

review

press-selection

„w. tolk in der theater-galerie“, esslinger zeitung, 26.11.1985;
beatrice schaechterle, „im Wandel“ - pictures from wolfgang tolk in esslingen,
esslinger zeitung, 4.12.1985;
gerhard hesler, „rahmenhandlung“ - wolfgang tolk, new pictures in Esslingen, stuttgarter zeitung, stuttgart, 9.12.1985;
taz, berlin 1.7.1987;
thomas wulffen, zitty berlin, issue 15, 1987;
lars friebel, berliner morgenpost, berlin, 3.7.1987;
rainer haarmann, „anmerkungen zur bildwelt von wolfgang tolk“, artothek, cologne 1988;
susanne wedewer, koelner stadt-anzeiger, cologne, 23.1.1988;
peter holm, „ein ganzer kosmos voller zarter farbklänge“, luebecker nachrichten, luebeck 8.10.1988
horst hannemann, „zwischen abbild und imagination“, wolfgang tolk at metta linde gallery, luebeckische blaetter, luebeck 29.10.1988;
harald fricke, taz berlin, „schwelender schiefer“, berlin, 1990;
w. tolk, b-z, in den neuen raemen, berlin 26.10.1990;
v. lempelius, landeszeitung schleswig- holstein, kiel 22.9.1992;
stefan borkert, „platz für phantasie“, wolfgang tolk at vayhinger gallery, suedkurier konstanz, konstanz, 10.4.1994;
susanne duerr, „kunst-kommunikation“, abstract works from w. tolk, suedkurier radolfzell, radolfzell 12.4.1994;
eva maria severin, „wenn man nichts sieht, schaut man laenger hin“, new works from wolfgang tolk, general anzeiger, bonn 27.12.1994;
margarete hucht, „sparsame gesten“ - works from w. tolk, bonner

rundschau, bonn 20.12.1994;
larissa foerster, „schwarz von farbe erobert“, koelner-stadt-anzei-
ger, cologne 13.8.1995;
interni, milan, Sept.1996;
design diffusion news 1996, issue 43, milan, chicago, osaka;
juergen kisters, „verhaltene farben“, wolfgang tolk and felim egan
at Schenk gallery, koelner stadt-anzeiger, cologne 9.4.1997;
ralf hoppe, wolfgang tolk, buchhandlung walther koenig, pesch intermoebel, koelner stadt-anzei-
ger, cologne, 19.9.1997;
design diffusion news 1997 , issue 48, milan, chicago, osaka;
interni, milan, february 1997;
speciale design, interni milan 1997;
otagone, issue 123, casa minimale, milan 1997;
christiana zu mecklenburg, „aus der mitte heraus“, bonner general anzeiger, bonn 15.10.1998;
modern living, stuttgart, oct. 1999;
elle decore, italy, oct. 2000;
design report, stuttgart, jan. 2001;
design diffusion news 2001, issue 88, milan, chicago, osaka;
otagone, may 2001, milan;
spazio casa, milan, may 2001;
corriere della siera, milan, june 2001;
spazio casa, milan, march 2002;
elle decore italia, milan march 2002;
lothar romain, „zwei professionen - ein kuenstler“, koelner skizzen, cologne, issue 1, march
2002;
architektur und wohnen, hamburg, issue 3, june - july 2002;
ad architectural digest, hamburg, aug.- sept. 2002;
elle decoration, germany sept. 2002;
vision, sept. 2002;
id fx, sept. 2002;
design diffusion news, milan, chicago, osaka, sept. 2002;
fx, Oct. 2002;
robb report, Oct. 2002;
elle decoration france, oct.2002;
id fx, oct. 2002;
ait italy, oct. 2002;
ad france, nov. 2002;
arquitectura y disegno, spain, nov. 2002;
marie claire maison, nov. 2002;
marie claire, greece, nov. 2002;
abitare l.a. „50 years of italian design in america“, los angeles dec. 2002;
desegno interior, spain, dec. 2002;
elle decoration, germany, march 2003;
elle decoration, france, april 2003;
elle decoration, uk, april 2003;
on disegno, april 2003;
elle interior, norway, april 2003;
csasamica n. 4, april 2003;
elle decor, italy, april 2003;
design diffusion news - cucine, milan, chicago, osaka, april 2003;
residence decoration, may 2003;
atrium special, title, „kuechen“, issue 21, zuerich 2003;
ad architectural digest, hamburg, may 2003;

otagono, milan, june 2003;
casa viva, „feuer und wasser“ - portrait wolfgang tolk, issue 14, cologne - barcelona 2003;
interni, milan, dec. 2003;
casa viva, issue 16, cologne - barcelona 2004;
elle decoration, greece, 2004