



PHAIDON



## Ineke Hans, Arnhem

Ineke Hans' work is straight, efficient and different. While Hans questions people's responses towards objects, she explores the latter's expected and unexpected functions with a self-imposed style. Archetypes, pictograms, childhood references and folklore codes are played with and twisted into clever products and robust furniture.

Born in The Netherlands, Hans spent some years in London while studying at the Royal College of Art and working for Habitat as a freelance designer. Today, having worked continuously since founding her studio in Arnhem in 1998, her oeuvre is made up of numerous and diverse products.

Each project is nourished by an analytic and intuitive approach based on meticulous observation of the user. Hans reflects on the essential function of the object as well as the psychological relationship between user and object.

Thus, the stainless-steel Garlic Crusher, designed for Royal VKB in 2005 and winner of the Red Dot Design Award, allies the primary function of crushing with one of the most traditionally enjoyable gestures of home cooking. Another example is the Jolly Jubilee easy chair, made of MDF and designed for Arco in 2005. Described by Hans as an 'easy chair', it combines the sobriety of a useful seat with universally comfortable proportions and a toy-like appearance in accordance with childhood archetypal codes. She responded to the challenge of designing children's furniture with her self-initiated Black Beauties collection (2000). Eluding adult prejudices, the colour black is chosen in order to highlight shapes and to suggest multiple imaginary uses to children.

Research into new materials and fabrication processes has led Hans to remarkable innovations. For example, the Black Gold modular porcelain ceramic collection (2002) proposes an infinite number of strange yet useful objects by assembling a limited series of shapes (tubes in three sizes, a corner and a plunger). A step further in her exploration is her outdoor furniture collection made from recycled plastic traditionally found along Dutch canals. Mischievously moulded in the shape of wooden planks, it is unexpectedly resistant to wind, water, salt, acid and UV rays.

In her consideration of human behaviour and our expectations of objects, at the same time exploring new materials, Hans always finds ways to surprise us with a definitively different approach. **Didier Krzentowski**



1  
Black Gold  
Five-armed candleholder  
2002  
Erik Jan Kwakkel  
Black porcelain

As part of her 'modular porcelain' project, Ineke Hans produced only five shapes/moulds, and used them to make vases, coffee pots, candleholders and chandeliers in graphically striking black porcelain.

2-3  
Pixelated Peacock  
Light  
2006  
Swarovski  
Crystal beads

The images of the peacocks are made using 104,328 Swarovski crystal beads, creating the effect of an embroidered pattern.

4  
Forest for the Trees  
Coat stand  
2005  
Lensvelt BV  
Epoxy-coated metal

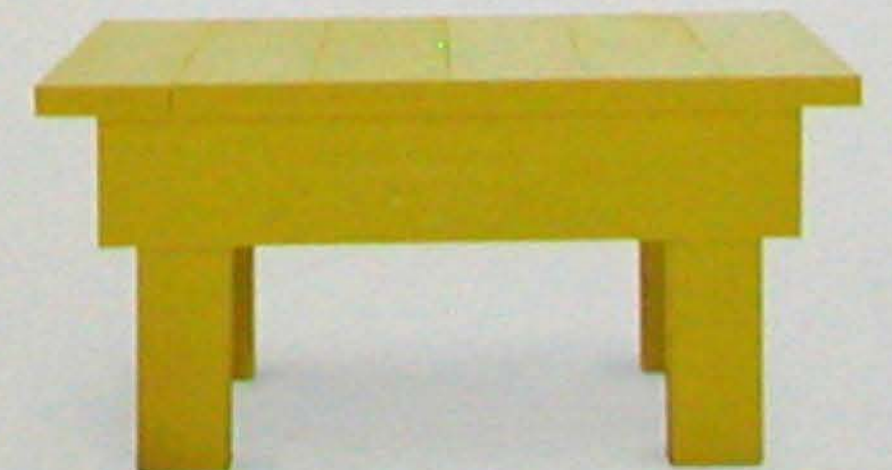
These stands are ideal for reception areas. Here they are seen at Club 11, Amsterdam with Hans' Relax Set.

5  
Relax Set  
Table and chairs  
2005  
INEKEHANS/ARNHEM  
Recycled plastic

Although wood-like in appearance, the sets are made from 100% recycled plastic that is found along Dutch canals.

6  
Beer Set  
Beer table set  
2005  
INEKEHANS/ARNHEM  
Recycled plastic

Beer-garden furniture, also made of 100% recycled materials.







7-8

Jolly Jubilee  
Easy chair  
2005  
Arco  
MDF

*This easy chair, made from one sheet of MDF indented with a leaf pattern, was designed as part of Arco's 100th birthday celebrations.*

9

Bowls & Spoons  
2005  
Royal VKB  
Porcelain, stainless steel

*The appealing design of Bowl & Spoons is based on the traditional Chinese noodle bowl; it can be used for eating soup or serving sauce. It won the Red Dot Award in 2006.*

10

Garlic Crusher  
2005  
Royal VKB  
Stainless steel

*This tool pulverizes the garlic for the most intense flavour, and when rinsing the crusher, the special stainless steel it is made from removes the odour of garlic from your hands.*

