

PRESS RELEASE

Artek presents Universal Wooden Chairs at Orgatec

At Orgatec 2018, Artek focusses on the role of the Universal Wooden Chair in the contemporary workspace, introducing the new Atelier Chair by TAF Studio, the re-issued Aslak Chair by Ilmari Tapiovaara and a webbing update on Alvar Aalto's Chair 611.

In the digital age, flexibility in the work context is crucial to employees and the working environment. Spaces have to cater to constantly shifting needs, offering fixed and temporary areas for formal meetings and casual breaks. This development has an impact on the user's expectations towards the livability and quality of the office architecture, so that natural materials, informal qualities and customisable designs are now highly sought after.

Since the beginning, Artek furniture has provided functional and aesthetic solutions for daily life that put the human at the centre. In particular, Alvar Aalto and Ilmari Tapiovaara experimented ceaselessly to develop transversal furniture that was functional for public and private spaces whilst being aesthetically pleasing.

Stackable, customisable and made of natural materials, Artek's Universal Wooden Chairs, both its classic and new designs, remain true to their visions and standards. All chairs presented by the Finnish brand at Orgatec travel easily between private homes and public spaces and demonstrate the compatibility of classic and contemporary designs.

Booth design by Johnston Marklee

Artek's new linen webbing inspired the architecture of the fair booth. LA-based architecture studio Johnston Marklee has created a triangular pavilion on a square floorspace. The walls and ceiling are made of standard issue, lightweight, galvanized fencing; the chain links have been woven with new webbing,

highlighting the versatility of the natural material along with its arresting visual appeal. Gaps in the irregularly webbed walls allow glimpses of the vertical chair installation at the back wall. This is the first collaboration between Artek and Johnston Marklee. Current projects of the renowned architecture studio include the Menil Drawing Institute on the campus of the Menil Collection in Houston and the interior design of the new Dropbox global headquarters in San Francisco.

Product News at Orgatec

Atelier Chair by TAF Studio

Atelier Chair by TAF Studio debuts at Orgatec. The compact, stackable chair with its slender proportions and geometric lines made entirely of solid wood, was designed by the Stockholm-based design and architecture studio for the new restaurant of Nationalmuseum in Stockholm, Sweden.

Domus and Aslak Chair by Ilmari Tapiovaara

Forever looking for new solutions to improve everyday objects, Ilmari Tapiovaara designed the Domus Chair in 1946 for Domus Academica, a student housing project in Helsinki. Aslak Chair (1958) picks up and continues many design principles of the Domus. Made of solid wood, Aslak Chair is elegant, lightweight, stackable and versatile. This universal wooden chair will return to the Artek collection in spring 2019.

Chair 611 and New Webbing

In collaboration with Dutch colour and textile expert Hella Jongerius, Artek has developed a palette of subtle new webbing colours while optimising the material properties of the classic linen belt. This clever upholstery technique has never gone out of fashion and is today used on Aalto's Chair 611, Armchair 406 and Lounge Chair 43. Chair 611 was one of Alvar Aalto's first modern furniture designs, created in 1929. The iconic webbed version was introduced up to two decades later and is suitable for almost any environment.

Artek – Art & Technology since 1935

Artek was founded in Helsinki in 1935 by four young idealists: Alvar and Aino Aalto, Maire Gullichsen, and Nils-Gustav Hahl. Their goal was “to sell furniture and to promote a modern culture of living by exhibitions and other educational means.” In keeping with the radical spirit of its founders, Artek today remains an innovative player in the world of modern design, developing new products at the intersection of design, architecture, and art. The Artek collection consists of furniture, lighting, and accessories designed by Finnish masters and leading international designers. It stands for clarity, functionality, and poetic simplicity.

For more than 80 years, Artek’s products have enriched public spaces, museums, schools, restaurants, hotels, shops, as well as countless private homes all over the world. The company is headquartered in Helsinki, Finland, also home to the Flagship Store Artek Helsinki and the Artek 2nd Cycle Store.

Artek at Orgatec 2018
23-27 October 2018
Tue – Fri: 09h – 18h
Sat: 09h – 16h
Hall 5.2 (WORK)

Further Information:

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