

Press release

## **Retrospective “Jasper Morrison: Thingness” at the Bauhaus Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung, Berlin**

**Beginning tomorrow Berlin’s Bauhaus institution will be presenting Germany’s first major survey of the British designer’s work.**

**Berlin, 21 March 2017: His designs stand for the beauty and innovative power of a reduction to essentials. Beginning tomorrow, the first retrospective in Germany to deal with the internationally renowned furniture and product designer Jasper Morrison’s oeuvre will be on display. With “Jasper Morrison: Thingness” the Bauhaus Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung will be presenting the Englishman’s (b.1959) most important products and projects until 23 October 2017. From the beginning of his career in the 1980s to the present day, Morrison has designed a great variety of everyday objects, such as furniture, kitchen utensils, tableware sets and lamps, but also shoes, clocks, watches, mobile phones and a tram for the city of Hanover. In the process he has collaborated with well-known companies, including Alessi, Camper, Cappellini, Flos, Muji and Vitra.**

The exhibition was developed in cooperation with Jasper Morrison and CID (Grand-Hornu, Belgium). In addition to manufactured products, the chronological presentation also encompasses explanatory comments, publications, drawings, photographs and unrealised designs as well as materials from the designer’s archive. It is thus able to provide deeper insights into the backgrounds and creative processes behind the individual works – from the initial search for ideas all the way to their realisation. The retrospective is accompanied by a richly varied programme of events.

“During the design process Jasper Morrison occupies himself intensively with what already exists, in order to thus arrive at new solutions. We are very pleased to be able to present key works from his current oeuvre at this exhibition”, explains Annemarie Jaeggi, Director of the Bauhaus Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung. Museums like London’s Victoria and Albert Museum or New York’s Museum of Modern Art have already been collecting his designs for quite some time. Morrison has received distinctions, including the IF Transportation Design Prize and the Ecology Award, for a number of his products.

### **Biography of Jasper Morrison**

Born in London in 1959, Jasper Morrison completed a degree at the Kingston Polytechnic design school in 1982. After completing a master’s at the Royal College of Art in London and receiving a grant to study at the Hochschule der Künste Berlin (now UdK Berlin), he founded his design agency in London in 1986. Since that time he has opened additional offices in Tokyo and Paris. Morrison first drew broader notice through two installations. In 1987 his Reuters News Centre was a part of Documenta 8, and in 1988 he presented the exhibition “New Items for the Home” at the DAAD Gallery in Berlin, in response to the then-popular Memphis Movement. The first companies to show interest in Morrison’s designs and to work with him were Aram and SCP in London, Neotu in Paris, FSB in Germany and Cappellini in Italy. He began working with Vitra in 1989 and has continued to do so to the present. Collaborations with the Italian companies Alessi, Flos and Magis as well as the German porcelain manufacturer Rosenthal followed in the 1990s. Consultancies with Muji, Samsung, Ideal Standard and Established & Sons emerged in the 2000s. Since 2010 he has collaborated with Spanish companies, such as Camper and Kettal, and served as art director of Punkt, a Swiss electronics com-

pany. Morrison has already had a number of exhibitions in other countries, including a 2015 exhibition at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs Bordeaux. Together with the Japanese designer Naoto Fukasawa, he published “Super Normal”, a 2006 manifesto championing the simple and functional design of everyday products. They jointly curated the exhibition of the same name, which travelled from Tokyo to London, Milan and New York. Morrison has published a number of books, including “The Good Life” (2014) and “A Book of Things” (2015), which can be purchased at the museum.

### **Exhibition design and coordination**

Michel Charlot and Jasper Morrison Studio

### **Programme of events (in German)**

Every Sunday, 2 pm: bauhaus\_tour

Guided tour of “Jasper Morrison: Thingness” and “Bauhaus in Motion”, free with admission to the museum

Sunday, 23 Apr, 21 May, 18 June, 17 Sept, 15 Oct, 11 am – 2 pm: bauhaus\_family

Family workshop, ages 5+: children €6, adults €9, materials €3, booking: info@jugend-im-museum.de

Sunday, 30 Apr, 25 June, 8 Oct, 11 am: bauhaus\_brunch

Brunch, admission and guided tour of the exhibition: €22, members €17, booking: visit@bauhaus.de

Thursday, 18 May, 7 pm: bauhaus\_special

Lecture “Den Alltag gestalten” (Designing everyday life) by Grit Weber (curator at the Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt am Main), followed by the awarding of the IKEA Stiftung’s design prize, free admission, booking required: visit@bauhaus.de

Monday to Friday, 24–28 July, 10 am – 3 pm: , bauhaus\_holidays

Workshop “Designing Lamps and Textiles”, for children aged 8 and up, course fee €70 + material fee €10, for further information and booking: info@jugend-im-museum.de

Monday to Friday, 28 Aug – 1 Sept 2017, 9 am – 2 pm: , bauhaus\_holidays

Workshop “A House for Everyone – Stackable and Serial Worlds”, for children aged 8 and up, course fee €70 + material fee €8, for further information and booking: info@jugend-im-museum.de

### **Visitor information** Bauhaus Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung, Klingelhöferstr. 14, 10785 Berlin

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Public transport: U Nollendorfplatz, Bus M 29, 100, 106 and 187 Lützowplatz

Admission: Wed. to Fri. €7/€4, Sat. to Mon. €8/€5

Standard opening times: daily, except Tuesday, 10 am – 5 pm

Holiday opening times: 14–18 Apr: 10 am – 5 pm; 1 May and 25 May: 10 am – 5 pm; 4 June – 6 June: 10 am – 5 pm; 3 Oct: 10 am – 5 pm

### **Press contact:** Bauhaus Archiv / Museum für Gestaltung, Press office and public relations

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