

Hella Jongerius

Hella Jongerius' (1963, the Netherlands) work combines the traditional with the contemporary, the newest technologies with age-old craft techniques. She aims to create products with individual character by including craft elements in the industrial production process.

Jongerius sees her work as part of a never- ending process, and the same is essentially true of all Jongeriuslab designs: they possess the power of the final stage, while also communicating that they are part of something greater, with both a past and an uncertain future. The unfinished, the provisional, the possible – they reside in the attention to imperfections, traces of the creation process, and the revealed potential of materials and techniques. Through this working method, Jongerius not only celebrates the value of the process, but also engages the viewer, the user, in her investigation.

In 1993, after graduating at the Academy of Industrial Design in Eindhoven, she founded the Jongeriuslab studio, where independent projects are developed as well as work for major clients, including the upholstery fabric company Maharam, the interior design of the Delegates' Lounge of the United Nations Headquarters in New York, cabin interiors for the airline KLM and the installation 'Colour Recipe Research' at the invitation of curator Hans Ulrich Obrist for the MAK (Vienna). Since 2012, Jongerius has served as Art Director for the rug company Danskina and since 2007 as Art Director of colours and materials for Vitra.

Recent projects include the publication of the book 'I don't have a favourite colour' for Vitra (2016), the exhibition 'Breathing Colour' on her colour research for the Design Museum London (2017) as well as an exhibition and an accompanying publication 'Beyond the New. On the Agency of Things' with Louise Schouwenberg for the Pinakothek der Moderne, Die Neue Sammlung Munich (2017).

Many of Jongerius' products can be found in the permanent collections of important museums (such as MoMA, New York, and Victoria and Albert Museum, London, and Boijmans van Beuningen Museum, Rotterdam).

Since 2009 Hella Jongerius lives and works in Berlin.

CV

born 1963 in De Meern, The Netherlands

1988–1993 Academy for Industrial Design (Eindhoven, the Netherlands)

1993 Starts with design studio Jongeriuslab (Rotterdam, the Netherlands)

2009 Opens studio in Berlin, Germany

Clients (selected):

since 2012 Design director and design of rugs for Danskina (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

since 2011 Cabin interior and seat design for KLM (Amstelveen, The Netherlands)

since 2005 Furniture design and Art director for colours and materials at Vitra (Basel, Switzerland)

since 2002 upholstery textile design for Maharam (New York, USA)

since 1997 porcelain and earthenware design for Royal Tichelaar Makkum (Makkum, The Netherlands)

Projects and work (selected):

2016 A search behind appearances, Shadow play, installation commissioned by Serpentine Galleries, for La Rinascente department stores; with Louise Schouwenberg

2016 Cocoon, Landscape and Cross, carpets for Danskina (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

2015 Cabin interior and seat design for Economy Class and World Business Class, Boeing 777 and Boeing 787, KLM (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

2015 Update of the Polder Sofa for Vitra (Basel, Switzerland)

2015 Argali and Dew, carpets for Danskina (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

2015 Re-interpretation of Armchair 402 from Alvar Aalto for Artek (Finland)

2015 New colour palette for the EPC range of Ray and Charles Eames for Vitra (Basel, Switzerland)

2014 Carapace, Foliage and Eden, upholstery textiles for Maharam (New York, USA)

2014 Re-interpretation of Chair 400, Cahir 401 and Stool 60 by Alvar Aalto for Artek

2014 East River Chair for Vitra (Basel, Switzerland)

2014 Cork&Felt, carpet for Danskina (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

2013 Knots & Beads Curtain, special design for the North Delegates' Lounge of the UN Headquarters in New York (NL / New York, USA)

2013 Gemstone Tables for Galerie Kreo (Paris, France)

2013 Carpets Bold, Duotone and Multitone for Danskina (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

2013 United Nations; interior design for North Delegates' Lounge, assignment of Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Bead Curtain, Sphere Table and RE-Lounge chair (NL / New York, USA)

2013 Cabin interior and seat design for World Business Class, Boeing 747-400, KLM (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

2012 Hours, Colorwheel and Vases, upholstery textiles for Maharam (New York, USA)

2012 Sphere Table for Vitra (Basel, Switzerland)
2010 Twelve colourful blacks in cooperation with kt.COLOR (Zurich, Switzerland)
2010 Coloured Vases series 3, colour research in cooperation with Royal Tichelaar Makkum, (the Netherlands)
2009 Artificial Flowers for Galerie Kreo (Paris, France)
2009 Frog Table for Galerie Kreo (Paris, France)
2008 Swatch Table, a modern version of a mosaic table for Galerie Kreo (Paris, France)
2007 Office Pets, limited edition for Vitra Edition (Basel, Switzerland)
2007 Layers series of upholstery fabrics for Maharam (New York, USA)
2006 Porcelain colour research for Royal Tichelaar Makkum (the Netherlands)
2006 Worker chair for Vitra (Basel, Switzerland)
2005 Polder sofa for Vitra (Basel, Switzerland)
2005 PS Jonsberg vases for IKEA (Sweden)
2004 Nymphenburg Sketches and Animal Bowls for Nymphenburg Porcelain Manufactory (Munich, Germany)
2002 Repeat series of upholstery fabrics for Maharam (New York, USA)
1999 Kasese Foam Chair and Sheep Chair for Cappellini Milan, produced by Jongeriuslab and Felt Stool for Cappellini Milan, produced by Jongeriuslab (Rotterdam, the Netherlands)
1998 B-set collection of intentionally imperfect industrially produced tableware for Royal Tichelaar Makkum (the Netherlands)
1994 Soft Urn and Soft Vase series of polyurethane vases for Droog Design (the Netherlands)

Exhibitions and collections (selected):

2016 Dream Out Loud - Designing for Tomorrow's Demands, group exhibition at Stedelijk Museum (Rotterdam)
2016 The Bauhaus - It's all design, group exhibition at Bundeskunsthalle Bonn
2016 Colour Machine, installation about the Vitra Colour and Material Library for Vitra (Basel, Switzerland)
2016 Pathmakers. Women in Art, Craft and Design, Midcentury and Today, at Museum of Arts and Design (New York)
2015 FNAC - Fonds National d'Art Contemporain (France) acquires Daylight Colour Wheel, Hopsak Colour Wheel, small circle of Coloured Vases (series 3), Backpack Sofa and several textiles for Maharam
2015 Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum (New York) acquires the textiles Eden, Foliage, Fruit and Borders
2014 Colour Recipe Research, installation for group exhibition Exemplary at the MAK (Vienna, Austria)
2014 Victoria and Albert Museum acquires the UN Lounge Chair (London, Great Britain)
2013 Four Seasons Teapot acquired by the Indianapolis Museum of Art (Indianapolis, USA)
2011 Victoria and Albert Museum acquires the Delft B-jug (London, Great Britain)

2010 Misfit, solo exhibition at Museum Boijmans van Beuningen (Rotterdam, the Netherlands)

2010 Taking a Stance, a representative overview for Dutch DFA at the Dutch Cultural Centre (Shanghai, China)

2007 'Inside Colours' installation for 'MyHome' exhibition at Vitra Design Museum (Basel, Switzerland)

2005 Ideal House at the Internationale Möbelmesse Köln (Cologne, Germany)

2005 'On the shelves' solo exhibition Hella Jongerius at Villa Noailles (Hyeres, France)

2005 Guest curator for Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum, New York; selection of work from the permanent collection and design of 'Paravents' inspired by this collection (New York, USA)

2003 Solo exhibition at the Design Museum (London, U.K.)

2002 Skin: Surface and Structure in Contemporary Design, Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum (New York, USA)

2001 Develops the My Soft Office series of futuristic office furniture for the Work-spheres exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art (New York, USA)

1996 Self-Manufacturing Designers exhibition at the Stedelijk Museum (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

1996 Thresholds in Contemporary Design from the Netherlands, Museum of Contemporary Art (New York, USA)

1995 Mutant Materials in Contemporary Design, The Museum of Modern Art (New York, USA)

1994 Participant at the first Droog Design exhibition at the Milan Furniture Fair with Bath Mat (Milan, Italy)

Publications (selected):

2016 I don't have a favourite colour, creating the Vitra colour and material library, Gestalten

2015 Beyond the new – a search for ideals in design, manifest with Louise Schouwenberg

2011 Misfit, texts by Louise Schouwenberg, Alice Rawsthorn and Paola Antonelli, graphic design by Irma Boom, 308 pages, Phaidon Publishers

2003 Hella Jongerius, text by Louise Schouwenberg, 152 pages, Phaidon Publishers

Teaching (selected):

2010 and 2013 Guest professor at Weissensee academy of Art (Berlin, Germany)

2000-2004 Head of the department Living at Design Academy Eindhoven (Eindhoven, The Netherlands)

1998-1999 Teacher at Design Academy Eindhoven (Eindhoven, The Netherlands)