

New exhibition brings the best of Danish design to Auckland

**Left**

Poul Henningsen (designer),
Louis Poulsen (manufacturer)
PH Contrast lamp 1958,
aluminium

Middle

Verner Panton (designer),
Louis Poulsen (manufacturer)
Flowerpot lamp 1968,
enamelled metal

Right

Cecilie Manz (designer),
Lightyears (manufacturer),
Caravaggio Pendant 2005,
lacquered steel

Verner Panton (designer),
Vitra (manufacturer)
Heart Cone Chair 1958,
stainless steel, wool

Denmark Design, a major exhibition that examines the history of Danish design icons, will open at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki on Saturday 26 October.

Pioneering, practical and timeless – Danish design has consistently been at the forefront of the applied arts and is today considered a shorthand for modern living and the modern home.

Charting developments in Danish design from the 19th century until today, with a focus on the post-World War II period, *Denmark Design* presents over 200 original objects, from furniture to fabrics, graphic design to jewellery, and ceramics to toys. Through the icons of Danish design, the exhibition explores the makers, ideologies and social contexts from which some of the archetypes of modern domestic design developed.

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Auckland Art Gallery Director Kirsten Paisley says, 'Denmark Design will showcase the groundbreaking creativity and enduring appeal of Danish design. These objects are renowned across the world as timeless in their ingenuity and international resonance.'

'New Zealanders have been bringing classic examples of Danish design into their homes since the 1950s – from the sleek Panton chair to the ubiquitous Bodem coffee press, icons of Danish design are synonymous with the art of homemaking. This exhibition is a must for anyone with interests in interior design, industrial design and the applied arts.'

Highlighting the complex craft and production processes behind finished objects of classic simplicity, the exhibition brings to New Zealand audiences the best of Danish craftsmanship and innovation in two- and three-dimensional design applied across items for our home and everyday use.

Exploring the processes of designing and making, the exhibition reveals how the Danish have considered not just the wellbeing of the individual user, but also materials, economics, environment and society to result in an approach that offers us all a new way of living – a design for life.

Denmark Design coordinating curator Emma Jameson says, 'Denmark has been at the vanguard of design because of its nuanced balancing of function and aesthetics. By displaying the objects individually and within staged home settings, the exhibition will showcase the groundbreaking craftsmanship of Danish design while emphasizing how design items were, and still are, intended for the everyday needs of the home.'

The exhibition features iconic works, such as the 'Egg' chair, the 'PH Artichoke' light and the Lego brick. Among the pioneering designers and manufacturers whose creativity and skill are represented are Royal Copenhagen, Hans Wegner, Finn Juhl, Arne Jacobsen, Verner Panton, Nanna Ditzel, Henning Koppel, Georg Jensen, Komplot and Ursula Munch-Petersen.

Denmark Design is curated by Designmuseum Danmark and Michael & Mariko Whiteway. The exhibition tour is coordinated by Brain Trust Inc., Tokyo.

For images and interviews

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Exhibition details

Denmark Design

When:
Saturday 26 October 2019–
Sunday 2 February 2020

10am – 5pm daily, except Christmas Day

Where:
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
Cnr Kitchener and Wellesley Streets
Auckland, New Zealand

Admission:
New Zealand adult \$16
New Zealand concessions \$14
Members and Members guests FREE
with valid Members card
Children 12 & under FREE

Separate charges apply for international visitors.

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Louise Henderson in
her studio with *Home in
Dieppe* 1957, circa 1957

Announcement coming soon

Louise Henderson: From Life

Saturday 2 November 2019 – March 2020

Louise Henderson: From Life is the first retrospective of the remarkable work of French-born, New Zealand artist Louise Henderson (1902–94).

The exhibition traces the development of the artist's bold, colourful abstract style over seven decades. It includes Henderson's early watercolours of the Canterbury landscape, abstracted still-life compositions, sensuous Cubist representations of the female figure and lyrical explorations of the New Zealand bush. The exhibition culminates with the monumental *Twelve Months* painting cycle, one of the most ambitious undertakings in New Zealand painting.

Louise Henderson: From Life has been jointly developed by Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki and Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū and is accompanied by a richly illustrated publication.

FREE for New Zealand residents



Bernie Hill McCahon at Auckland City Art Gallery
circa 1961, black and white photographic print,
Colin McCahon artist file, E H McCormick
Research Library, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki.

Opening this month

A Place to Paint:

Colin McCahon in Auckland

Saturday 10 August 2019 – Sunday 27 January 2020

One of New Zealand's foremost artists, Colin McCahon (1919–87), moved to Auckland from Christchurch in May 1953 to begin work at Auckland City Art Gallery. The geographical shift north brought about a change in the focus of his art – from the human figure, and grandeur of southern landscapes, to his more local environment. For the next three decades, his painting responded to the landscapes around his homes and studios in the Waitakeres, inner-city Auckland and Muriwai.

A Place to Paint: Colin McCahon in Auckland considers McCahon's long-time relationship with Auckland and the significance of the physical, spiritual and cultural landscape on his painting.

FREE for New Zealand residents