

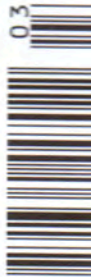
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Q&A 1 – KUBIX AND CUBE SEVEN

Andre Ivanyi (Kubix) and Markus Gogolin (Cube Seven) understand that even the best ideas have to answer a commercial call to succeed, and their collaboration resulted in one of our favourite pieces of the fair: 'Cube 04', a cherry-wood bench with a felt cover. This is their first time at the *Passagen*.

W*: What are your design backgrounds?

AI: *I studied economics and marketing, but gradually realised that I was more interested in producing stuff. I wanted to learn more about materials and design, so I set up my own business.*

MG: *I studied architecture in Cologne then worked as an interior designer and set up Cube Seven in 1999.*

W*: How did your collaboration come about?

MG: *Andre and I met last year. We both already had our own labels but thought that it would be fun to work together, so we produced 'Cube 04' and then decided to both do the show.*

W*: What's your impression of the fair?

AI: *It's been really useful for us in terms of feedback. It's important for young designers to have a forum like this, where everything from big established companies to first-time exhibitors get a platform.*

W*: What are your plans for the future?

AI: *This year, I'll be developing existing pieces and taking part in some competitions. Next year, I plan to be in Cologne and Milan.*

MG: *I'm trying to develop a completely retractable table and seating unit for eight people.*



LIVING

Sean Dix produced an innovative chair by playing with bent paperclips. 'Paperclip' is low cost and perfectly flat pack – buyers take home just three components and a couple of screws. Never an outfit to disappoint, Hidden launched the bamboo and steel 'Bambu' chair by Fernando and Humberto Campana and the 'Yello' table, in Corian and stainless steel, by Michiel van der Kley. Molteni nipped and tucked the existing range, but caught our eye with its mad mustard upholstery, which stood out as the best of this year's essential sludgy tones. Rundbogentüren Eber rustled up the most ingenious take on multi-function yet, with a door which slides neatly off its hinges to unfold into a cleverly constructed table.

DINING

Belgian outfit, Casimir, had already provided some of our favourite dining room furniture at the last *Passagen*, and this year the existing table was bolstered by a clever bench: three simple wooden bars form stand-alone sociable seating or slot under the table to seat opposing diners simultaneously. Over at the main Messe, Ron Arad expanded the 'Victoria and Albert' chairs with a well-wrought dining table for Moroso.

STUDY

We like office furniture with an identity problem, because stuff which aspires to live in the lounge makes dealing with your workspace less of an ordeal. Few contenders for home-office ingenuity surfaced this time, but there was one thing we would find space for. The 'Universal' birch table by Hubert Sanktjohanser for Zeitrum was impeccably equipped with a telescopic tube which expands with ease to accommodate a stepped-up workload.



LIVING

oh de cologne: previous page from 'Elam' kitchen by Tisetanta; 'K10' kitchen by Norbert Wangen. Clockwise from far left, Markus Gogolin; 'Cube Seven' bench by Markus Gogolin for Cube Seven; Andre Ivanyi; 'Paperclip' chair by Sean Dix; 'Bambu' chair by the Campana brothers for Hidden; 'Yello' table by Michiel van der Kley for Hidden; dining table and bench by Casimir; 'Universal' table by Hubert Sanktjohanser for Zeitrum.



LIVING



DINING

STUDY

