

Curriculum vitae

Klaus Hackl was born in Munich in 1967. After his final secondary-school examinations in 1988 and compulsory military service, he began training as an industrial designer at the Munich University of Applied Sciences and thereafter at the University of Art and Design in Saarbruecken.

Shortly after completing his diploma in product design in spring 1995, he seized the opportunity to join the office of Jasper Morrison in London and continued to work there for many years. Developing a variety of everyday projects, from cutlery to porcelain and furniture to appliance design, he got in touch with major international clients such as Alessi, Rosenthal, Cappellini, Vitra and Magis. Furthermore, as head of a team of designers and engineers, he was responsible for the interior of the EXPO 2000 tram for Hanover, which won several IF Awards in 1997.

At the end of 1998, Klaus Hackl returned to Munich and started collaborating with Konstantin Grcic, contributing to the design of the iconic "Mayday" lamp which won the "Compasso d'Oro" in 2001.

In 1999, after having gained profound experience with some of the most inspiring teachers and companies, he set up his own design studio in Munich and began to define the style that characterises his personality and idea of design. Marco Romanelli, curator and chief editor of Abitare Magazine, summed up some of these characteristics:

"... Klaus' design resembles Klaus (do not be amazed: once upon a time there was fervent belief in a correspondence between the creator and his work): strong, decisive, without trimmings. It comes from the simplicity of country and alpine life, from the veneration of anonymous design (that refined through generations by hundreds of craftsmen), from the observation of daily behaviour..."

In all his activities, Klaus Hackl aims for a better understanding of the historic and sociocultural contexts fundamental to the design of objects and spaces, brands and services - a research based approach beneficial for clients and society. Striving not to accept only a specialist view of design but rather to work with a wide range of challenges and disciplines, the list of companies and projects continuously expanded over the years.

Linking up personal work experience with a good understanding of design didactics, Klaus Hackl's professional career has also included lectures, design teaching and conducting workshops at universities and cultural institutions in Germany and abroad.

As of October 2016, Klaus Hackl has been appointed as a contract professor for product design at the Faculty of Design and Art of the Free University of Bolzano.

For a more detailed cv, please refer to the office website at www.klaushackl.de

Klaus Hackl, September 2016