



PRESS RELEASE 02 | 2010

AIT CHARITY CHAIR

- 120 renowned European architects upgrade 120 chairs
- Exhibition tours Europe
- grand Finale in Berlin on 9 December 2010 - all the chairs sold at auction for the benefit of an aids orphanage in Langa, South Africa

>>> auction of the CHARITY CHAIRS - in Berlin on 9 December <<<

"Pimp my chair", this was the invitation to 120 European architects and interior architects. In The campaign initiated by ait and the Swiss furniture manufacturer Dietiker renowned architectural offices participated such as MVRDV, GRAFT or J. Mayer H., but also universities and creative designers who, to date, are less well-known to the general public. The task was to re-design the white, stackable solid-wood chair by the manufacturer Dietiker, to turn it into something completely different and alter it to their liking. The only "Briefing" for the Designers: In the end, it should be possible to auction off the chair as expensively as possible. The result of the chairs submitted surpasses all expectations. The chairs reflect the creative potential and the range of European architects and interior architects. It is precisely the side-by-side of the designs which makes this project so extraordinary and worth seeing: 120 transformed chairs represent 120 in some cases completely contrary ideas and approaches.

Thus Mario Botta, for instance, changed the chair with his milled-into signature, GRAFT added horns to their chair. Werner Haremsa Design had the chair newly veneered with much effort and cost and, with added inlays, created a reference to the continent of Africa. The duo of young architects Hollandse Nieuwe created an "encounter chair" by chaining several chairs together. The Berlin architects Gewers & Pudewill covered their chair with synthetic turf and flowers - to symbolize the necessity for man to get in touch with nature. The architectural office Paul de Ruiters literally wanted to make Africa shine and varnished the chair with environment-friendly fluorescent paint which makes it visible in the dark. A certain irony, on the other hand, is obvious at caramel Architekten: they sawed up their chair, without further ado extended it with air cushions and thus, "with air and love wanted to achieve a lot". Particularly striking is a plush-like object by Robbrecht en Daem Architekten: the covered their chair with a fluffy fur and almost turned it into something alive.

All the chairs have already been presented to the general public and were displayed on a major exhibition tour in the AIT Architecture salons in Hamburg, Munich and Cologne as well as in Copenhagen and Rotterdam. Five chairs have already been auctioned off and reached maximum

prices of up to 1,250 euros. With a grand gala in Berlin at the beginning of December, the project will now reach its peak in the 120-anniversary year of AIT:

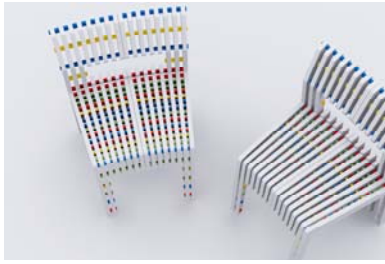
The chairs transformed into art objects will be auctioned off on **9 December 2010** in the **St. Johannes - Evangelist - Kirche, Auguststraße 90** in **Berlin-Mitte**. Those who want to participate in the auction and cannot be present on 9 December, simply submit their bids online.

At www.ait-charitychair.de you will find an overview of all the chairs designed with such commitment, the statements by the architects as well as an opportunity to join in the bidding. In each case, the maximum bid - either on site or online - will be accepted.

The donation sum will benefit an aids orphanage in the South African township of Langa. This supports an initiative by the Augsburg diocese and the organization "Eine Welt" [which means: one world] which on site have the necessary infrastructure to really use the means as the donors intend them to be used. Thus the money will really benefit the poorest of the poor. Aids orphans whose parents, grandparents and other relatives have already fallen victim to the disease. Who literally do not have anybody anymore - and yet are not only to survive in the indescribable reality of a South African township but also need a perspective.

For a long time now, AIT has been linked by a special relationship with the township of Langa. This is where ait has held a series of workshops with international architects and interior architects. The children and adolescents of the township were the hosts and told much about the reality of life in South Africa prior to the soccer world championship. The project Charity Chair is to make a contribution to at least a little bit improve their living conditions.

In the Swiss manufacturer Dietiker, the ideal partner for the project had been found. The Ono chair was chosen since, with its high design quality - without being over the top - it provides room for additional design possibilities. A wooden chair which is easy to rework and, thanks to being lightweight and stackable, is just as suitable for furnishing commercial spaces as for private areas. In its simple perfection, the almost prototype of a chair provided the ideal blank canvas and the perfect base for the variety of design ideas by the architects and interior architects.



PARTICIPANTS

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ippolito fleitz group GmbH, Stuttgart
www.ifgroup.org

GRAFT, Berlin
www.graftlab.com

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www.mori-projects.de

RAISERLOPES Architekten / Innenarchitekten, Stuttgart
www.raiserlopes.com

JOI-DESIGN, Hamburg
www.joi-design.com

Störmer Murphy and Partners, Hamburg
www.stoermer-partner.de

Kleihues + kleihues, Berlin
www.kleihues.com

Bolzenius und Westkämper GmbH, Herzebrock
<http://bundw-gmbh.de>

Ellis Williams Architects, Berlin
www.ewa.co.uk

Roomarts, Bad Aibling
roomarts.de

Stark Architekten, München
www.stark-architekten.de

Steidle Architekten Gesellschaft von Architekten und Stadtplanern mbH, München
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ORTNER & ORTNER, Köln
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Schmidt Holzinger Innenarchitekten, Rodgau
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GKK Architekten, Berlin
www.gkk-architekten.de

Leson Innenarchitektur x Objektmanagement, Frankfurt a.M.
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designstudio regina dahmen-ingenhoven, Düsseldorf
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bost group berlin, Berlin
www.bost-group.com

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Staatliche Akademie der bildenden Künste, Stuttgart
www.architektur.abk-stuttgart.de

sbp - Seel Bobsin Partner Design-Konzeptionen, Hamburg
www.sbpdesign.de

sma / arc, Hamburg
www.smaarc.de

riegerarchitektur.dresden, Dresden
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www.kza.de
Shape Design, Büdelsdorf
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ÖSTERREICH

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www.alleswirdgut.cc

caramel architekten zt gmbh, Wien
www.caramel.at

Hertl.Architekten ZT GmbH, Steyr
www.hertl-architekten.com

gharakhanzadeh sandbichler architekten zt gmbh, Wien
www.gs-arch.at

Architekturbüro Plottegg, Graz
plottegg.tuwien.ac.at

kunath trenkwalder, Wien
www.kunathtrenkwalder.at

Proyer & Proyer Architekten OEG, Steyr
www.proyer.com

BKK3 Architektur ZT GmbH, Wien
www.bkk-3.com

Berger + Parkkinen Architekten ZT GmbH, Wien
www.berger-parkkinen.com

ARTEC Architekten, Wien
www.artec-architekten.at

INNOCAD, Graz
www.innocad.at

INNOCAD & Nerma Linsberger Architektur GmbH, Wien
www.icnl.at

Aicher Architekten, Lustenau
www.aicher-architekten.at

PURPUR.ARCHITEKTUR ZT GmbH, Graz
www.purpur.cc

mar.te.marte architekten zt GmbH, Weiler
www.mar.te.marte.com

Ernst Giselbrecht & Partner Architektur ZT GmbH, Graz
www.giselbrecht.at

Peichl & Partner ZT GmbH, Wien
www.peichl-partner.at

Dietrich | Untertrifaller Architekten, Bregenz
www.dietrich.untertrifaller.com

SCHWEIZ

Studio Architetto Mario Botta, Lugano
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www.piaschmid.ch

Gessaga Hindermann GmbH, Zürich
www.gessaga-hindermann.ch

Riken Yamamoto + Beda Faessler Architekten, Zug
www.ya-fa.ch

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www.bgp.ch

Atelier Teamwerk, Freuenfeld
www.werkplatz.com

Ramseier & Associates LTO., Zürich
www.ramseier-assoc.com

Carlos Martinez, Berneck
www.carlosmartinez.ch

NIEDERLANDE

Group A, Rotterdam
www.groupa.nl

Wiel Arets Architects, Amsterdam
www.wielarets.nl

NL Architects, Amsterdam
www.nlarchitects.nl

Hollandse Nieuwe concepts & design, Amsterdam
www.hollandse-nieuwe.com

HofmanDujardin, Amsterdam
www.hofmandujardin.nl

INBO, Eindhoven
www.inbo.com

Claessens Erdmann architects designers, Amsterdam
www.claessens-erdman.nl

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www.aronsengelauff.nl

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www.studioleonthier.nl

de Zwarte Hond, Rotterdam

www.dezwartehond.nl

M•R Architecten, Eindhoven

www.www.mplusr.nl

MAS architectuur, Rotterdam

www.masarchitectuur.nl

OMA, Rotterdam

www.oma.nl

SeARCH, Amsterdam

www.search.nl

D/Dock, Amsterdam

www.ddock.nl

Architectenbureau Paul de Ruiter, Amsterdam

www.paulderuiter.nl

Cepezed, Delft

www.cepezed.nl

atelier voor bouwkunst, Rotterdam

www.dollab.nl

de Architecten Cie.

www.cie.nl

MVRDV, Rotterdam

www.mvrdv.nl

sprikk office for architecture, urbanism & interior design

www.sprikk.com

ScheurwatervandenHoven, Rotterdam

www.svdharchitecten.nl

ITALIEN**Matteo Thun & Partners, Milano**

www.matteothun.com

GROSSBRITANNIEN**Jestico + Whiles, London**

www.jesticowhiles.com

RMJM, London

www.alsoprjm.com

Allies and Morrison Architects, London

www.alliesandmorrison.com

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www.ejal.com

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www.fat.co.uk

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www.cfmoeller.com

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www.robbrechtendaem.com

Dirk de Leeuw Architects, Brussels

www.dlarchitects.be

JDS Architects, Brussels

www.jdsarchitects.com

CONIX Architects, Antwerpen

www.conixarchitects.com



With the revenues of the auction the Charity Chair Project supports the AIDS orphanage and the cultural center Guga St. Thebe in the Township Langa near Cape Town.

The project is supported by the organisation 'Eine Welt'.

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