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The Museum of Modern Art

THRESHOLDS: CONTEMPORARY DESIGN FROM THE NETHERLANDS

June 27–November 5, 1996

An exhibition of contemporary Dutch design, ranging from home furnishings to mailboxes, is on view at The Museum of Modern Art from June 27 to November 5, 1996. Organized by Paola Antonelli, Associate Curator, Department of Architecture and Design, *Thresholds: Contemparary Design from the Netherlands* comprises 36 works created in the past ten years by such designers as Gijs Bakker, Hella Jongerius, Ninaber/Peters/Krouwel, Tejo Remy, and Henk Stallinga and introduces their work to the United States for the first time in a museum environment.

Ms. Antonelli writes in the brochure accompanying the exhibition, "Fueled by a spreading preoccupation with the environment and other social and political issues, today's design is valued for its economy, simplicity, and sensibility. Designers have embraced this stimulating intellectual exercise and have begun to produce objects that are durable, reusable, and useful....Examples of these trends can be found all over the world, but a group of designers from the Netherlands has in recent years responded to these expectations with a unanimity that merits particular attention. Many of them celebrate ingenuity and economy in their work, transforming these qualities into a coherent minimalist aesthetic. Their objects' apparent modesty has made them emblematic of what political correctness in design should be."

The fourth in the Museum's Thresholds series, which is devoted to thematic explorations of contemporary issues in architecture and design, *Thresholds: Contemparary Design from the Netherlands* is made possible by a generous grant from The Mondriaan Foundation, Amsterdam. Additional support has been provided by The Contemporary Arts Council of The Museum of Modern Art.

Dutch Design in the Garden Café
Several designers included in this exhibition are also showcased in the Museum's cafeteria facing The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden. Redesigned in October 1995, the interior of the Garden Café features chairs, tables, lighting, and other fixtures and furnishings by prominent Dutch designers, as well as a display of contemporary Dutch graphic design, posters, and books.

For further information or photographic materials, please contact Uri Perrin, Department of Communications, 212/708–9757.

No. 32

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