

Samuli Naamanka - Art and Industry - press release

Living Design Center OZONE Gallery 1 first floor at Shinjyuku Park Tower
October 30 – November 3, 2008

Interior designer Samuli Naamanka (born 1969) is known as a versatile designer whose work combines carefully considered vocabulary of form with creative technical innovation.

As well as product design and interior design, Naamanka specialises in environmental design. Amongst other things, he has carried out groundbreaking work in the development of concrete products. The results of this have given rise, for example, to patent inventions for a graphic concrete patterning technology and for colouring concrete in several different colours.

The Art and Industry exhibition contains a wide-ranging sample of Samuli Naamanka's work. Objects on show include the prize-winning Clash chair which has a stylish seat formed out of pressed wood. On show, too, are photographs of Samuli Naamanka's exhibition designs, environmental works and public works of art. The works contain references to the history, nature and architecture of the places where they are located and symbols of them.

Samuli Naamanka was awarded the 2004 elevation-building prize by the Julkisivuyhdistys (the Finnish facade foundation) for developing graphic concrete, and the SIO Furniture Designer of the Year prize in 2005. His most recent award is the 2008 Nordiska design prize presented to him at the Stockholm Furniture Fair in February.

This exhibition was put together for Alvar Aalto Museum in Jyväskylä, Finland during spring 2008 and brought to Living Design Center OZONE in Tokyo.

Samuli Naamanka presents additional new design products -Jiella hanging chair , Suomi Steel pots prototype series, Aamu fabric, Ruoto prototype lounge chair and Omote Magnet wall panel system-.

PARTNERSHIP

The production of the exhibition has been supported by the Ministry of Employment and The Economy in Finland, Embassy of Finland in the Japan, the Arts Council of Finland and by the companies co-operating with Samuli Naamanka.

Company list:

Avarte, Finland (www.avarte.fi)

Graphic Concrete, Finland (www.graphicconcrete.com)

Martela, Finland (www.martela.fi)

Opa Muurikka, Finland (www.opa.fi)

Backman, Finland (www.backmanform.fi)

Habitek, Finland (www.habitek.fi)

Svensson Markspelle, Sweden (www.ludvigsvensson.com)

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