

PRESS RELEASE 'TRIBUTE TO VISSER'

Well-known Dutch designers pay tribute to Martin Visser

JAN DES BOUVRIE, RICHARD HUTTEN, CAROLINA WILCKE & REINIER BOSCH,
PIET HEIN EEK, KIKI VAN EIJK, MARCEL WANDERS AND SABINE MARCELIS
HONOUR MARTIN VISSER'S OEUVRE

'Tribute to Visser' from 14 March 2020 at Spectrum and Centraal Museum Utrecht



This year we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the furniture collection that leading Dutch designer Martin Visser (1922-2009) created for Spectrum in 1960. Visser's collection produced many design classics, including the famous BR 02 sofa bed. To honour his contribution to design history, well-known contemporary Dutch designers pay tribute to his work. Jan des Bouvrie, Richard Hutten, Carolina Wilcke & Reinier Bosch, Piet Hein Eek, Kiki van Eijk, Marcel Wanders and Sabine Marcelis created new designs, inspired by a Visser piece of furniture. The result is 'Tribute to Visser'. The designs, along with the original work of Martin Visser, can be seen from 14 March at the exhibition 'The eye-opening sofa bed' in the Centraal Museum Utrecht.

Martin Visser & Spectrum

In the 1950s Martin Visser becomes head of Spectrum's design department. As one of the best-known Dutch designers, he connects other important designers to the furniture brand, including Friso Kramer, Constant Nieuwenhuys, Benno Premsele and Gerrit Rietveld. The furniture collection that Visser designed for the brand in 1960, with the BR 02 sofa bed as its best-known icon, turned out to be a big hit. The sofa bed became a true design classic and, like many of Visser's other popular designs, is still in production at Spectrum.



An ode to famous designers

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of Visser's most famous designs, Dutch designers pay tribute to his work under the name 'Tribute to Visser'. Jan des Bouvrie, Richard Hutten, Carolina Wilcke & Reinier Bosch, Piet Hein Eek, Kiki van Eijk, Marcel Wanders and Sabine Marcelis made a new design piece, inspired by a Visser piece of furniture. Sabine Marcelis' contribution, the SE 69 SOAP Edition, was already introduced for the occasion in January at Galerie Eenwerk in Amsterdam.

Exhibition in the Centraal Museum Utrecht

The exhibition 'The eye-opening sofa bed' the Centraal Museum in Utrecht showcases the results of the designers along with the original furniture by Martin Visser. Previous work from the participating designers will also be on display. The objects are accompanied by modern art from the Centraal Museum's collection of artists whose work Visser collected. During his lifetime, Visser built up an important private collection of contemporary art. He collected work by Cobra from an early age; later on his collection focussed on minimal art and conceptual art by artists such as Christo, Daan van Golden and Jan Schoonhoven.

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#tributetovisser

