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The Museum of Modern Art

WORKS BY THREE OUTSTANDING CONTEMPORARY DESIGNERS FEATURED IN NEW PROJECTS EXHIBITION AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Projects 66: Campana/Ingo Maurer

November 27, 1998-January 19, 1999

A new Projects exhibition devoted to contemporary design opens November 27 at The Museum of Modern Art. The diverse talents of designers Fernando and Humberto Campana, from São Paulo, Brazil, and Ingo Maurer, from Munich, Germany, are on display in *Projects 66: Campana/Ingo Maurer*, the first exhibition dedicated entirely to their works in an American museum.

"Ingo Maurer, acknowledged master of lighting design, and young design mavericks Fernando and Humberto Campana express in their work a contemporary sensitivity that involves the use of unexpected materials and ideas that update and elevate modern design using lightness and poetry," says Paola Antonelli, Associate Curator, Department of Architecture and Design, who organized the exhibition.

Fernando and Humberto Campana, brothers who founded the design studio Campana, have gained respect in recent years for their evocative furniture. Many of their works--which combine industrial materials and techniques with the traditional craftsmanship of Brazil--are curious yet comfortable variations on the modern chair. The *Azul* armchair (1993), for example, was made by weaving blue cotton rope through the chair's rationalist tubular steel frame to form an intricate cushioned web. Equally inventive are the *Bubble Wrap* chair (1995), which uses layered bubble wrap to create a sleek and elegant upholstery, and the *Carton and Iron* chair (1995), whose seat is constructed from cut and stacked cardboard. Full of vibrant color, the exhibition will also feature innovative tables and screens by Campana.

Ingo Maurer, now in the third decade of his career, opened his first company in 1966 to produce a lighting fixture called *Bulb*. This now-famous work captures Maurer's fascination with the light bulb, which in his mind represents the perfect meeting of industry and poetry. The witty and delicate lamps featured in the exhibition are either inspired by the light bulb or made of Maurer's favorite material, paper. *Wo bist Du, Edison?* (1997), for instance, is a hologram of a light bulb, while *Samurai* (1998), one of a series of lamps called MaMo Nouchies, is an intricate, handcrafted construction of pleated paper, inspired by co-designer Dagmar Mombach's inventive use of traditional Japanese textile techniques, and largely influenced by Isamu Noguchi's *akari* work. In all of his works, Maurer aims to create lamps that combine visual beauty and design poetry with technical sophistication.

A special subsite of the MoMA Web site has been developed in conjunction with *Projects 66: Campana/Ingo Maurer*. Visitors to the exhibition will be able to access the subsite using a kiosk in the gallery. It features an introduction written by the curator, images of works in the exhibition,

and an exhibition checklist with descriptions.

The Projects series is sponsored by Peter Norton.

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