

Greek Products Abroad

BLOGGING ABOUT HELLENISM AND MODERN GREECE

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Kontaki Design

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Producing Greek Design

Born and raised in Athens, Spiros Kontakis was involved with music and sound in his early professional years. After spending a few years in London where he worked as a session guitarist he returned to his greatest love, Design which he studied (painting and furniture design) and so he started over again.

kontaki
D E S I G N

"Music was my first contact with Art and for a very long time I spent working on music professionally, but it turned out that Design was what I really wanted to get involved. So I started redesigning my life as I started designing objects and furniture" he confesses.



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Spiros Kontakis describing his creations: "Personality becomes the distinctive feature of my design so that objects are considered as work of Art while at the same time they hold their practical function."



Kontaki Design Teaser (2011) from Spiros Kontakis on Vimeo.

First recognized in France.

Within a Design presentation at the Royal Monceau in Paris the quality and aesthetics of his creations gained the attention of the public; where the true enthusiasm came through and his genuine creativity and ideal production was born in a very difficult time in Greece.

Moreover, Spiros Kontakis has been selected to be one of the artists of 2012 who took part at the annual Charity event in Monaco, the FightAidsMonaco.



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Tea Cutlery "conical" from Spiros Kontakis on Vimeo. Hollywood stars posed with the Conical Tea Cutlery to be photographed at Royal Monceau in Paris . The Conical Tea Cutlery is included in the annual catalogue of FightAidsMonaco-2012.



Presence in Design Plaza

His first collection is hosted in Greece, in Design Plaza, a unique trade center with selected creations from world famous designers. "I owe my presence at Design Plaza to the trust of Mr.Danias, owner of Design Plaza" he explains in his notable modesty.



We asked Mr.Danias about his collaboration with Spyros Kontakis in Greece...:

—Mr Danias this year a new program has started to run presenting Greek Designers, we would like to describe the reasons for this decision, as well as the selection of Kontaki Design, to be hosted entirely at Design Plaza.

This is not the first time we are presenting creations of Greek Designers and furniture production. We have interest in every effort of Greek Design production and we have occasionally promoted their sales through Design Plaza. It is however the first time showing a full collection itself in a hall

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DESIGN PLAZA

Mr Danias is an established professional and pioneer in the field of Design in Greece who has even created a museum for the Design of the 20th century showing –for the first time in Greece– pieces of Art and creations of internationally recognized architects and designers.

This is not the first time we are presenting creations of Greek Designers and furniture production. We have interest in every effort of Greek Design production and we have occasionally promoted their sales through Design Plaza. It is however the first time showing a full collection itself in a hall enabling the visitor to have a complete picture. Spyros Kontakis delivers with the issue of design and producing his creations, so we have a Design collection where the creator is also “the” producer. The whole production process is crucial in Applied Design since we all have ideas. The potential of a project is assessed in execution followed by the sales which define the success. We give the opportunity to the user to meet with the creator. This is not always easy because it requires “maturity” and through the process of presenting and marketing of a complete piece of furniture the purchase is decided. However, today this becomes much

harder because of the recession.

However when someone is able to set in motion an “opportunity” this is, what definitely should do. We have quite large facilities and showrooms, where customers with interest in buying exceptional Design creations can choose after a very careful consideration and a visual assessment of the great Design creations located here. Our customers are well educated, well traveled and have visited contemporary art museums worldwide so they choose furniture and objects that have a story to tell.

— You come into daily contact with visitors of the museum and of the commercial department of Design Plaza... how do they evaluate the creation of the new department and the collection ?

Visitors, to their surprise, see a dedicated venue to a Greek Designer’s meaningful creations. Until now Greek furniture manufacturers were promoted as a cheap solution to the recession, we could say that they were almost embarrassed to label it as “Greek furniture”. Well, in this collection the opposite is achieved and these are exactly the impressions we receive.



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