

Direktorenhaus

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The Direktorenhaus

The Direktorenhaus is an exhibition house for applied arts in Berlin.

Beyond its own collection, it hosts temporary exhibitions that make tangible the special aura of things. What sets the Direktorenhaus apart is its specific understanding of relevance and currency.

The atmospheric building is part of the Old Mint in the center of Berlin, in near proximity to the Museum Island along the River Spree.

The various floors of the Direktorenhaus are home to show rooms, ateliers, workshops and studios.

The Direktorenhaus was founded in 2010 by Pascal Johanssen and Katja Kleiss. Although there is long historical tradition of promoting free art, to date there is still a lack of top-level support for the applied arts in Germany. The Direktorenhaus wants to close this gap.



Location

Berlin



Alexanderplatz

Unter den Linden
Museum Island

Direktorenhaus



Contemporary Craft/Design

The Direktorenhaus hosts various exhibition projects in which art, design and handicraft intertwine – perspectives that strengthen one another when they come together under the right conditions. The fields of action of design and handicraft have changed: What meaning do the applied arts have today? How do we humanise our technically moulded environment? How can design and traditional handicraft contribute to this?

The exhibitions of the Direktorenhaus attempt to create a symbiosis. On the one hand, they analyse traditions that enable an examination of time and history. On the other hand, they look past our current horizon towards the future.











Research

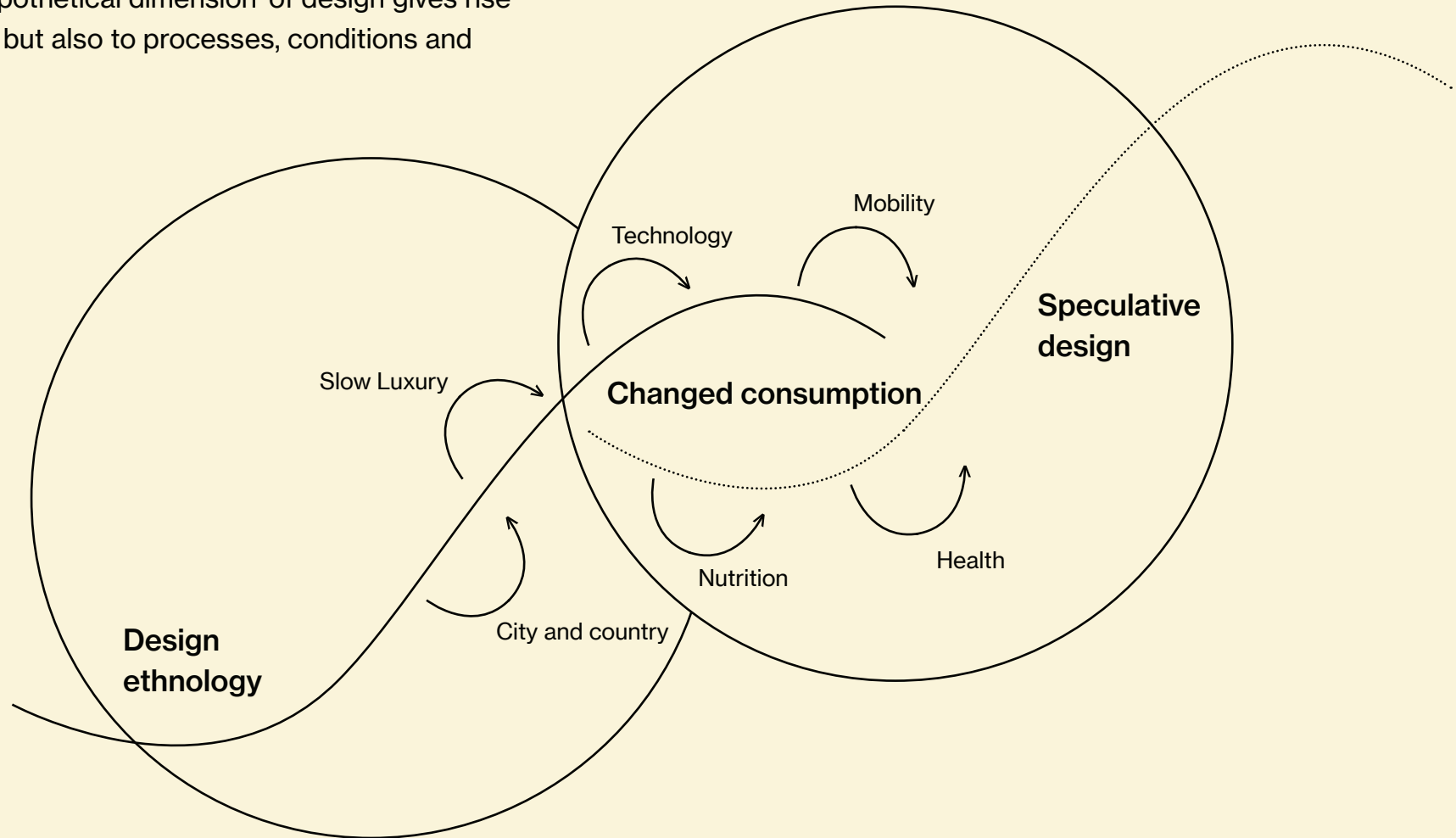
Every year, fellows from various disciplines work at the Direktorenhaus.

Their ideas flow into the conception of the exhibitions, which are developed from two points of view: The first is a design ethnology perspective that focuses on the exploration of past and established cultural forms. This is built upon by the perspective of speculative design, from which emergent themes find their way into the exhibitions in the form of unique pieces and prototypes.

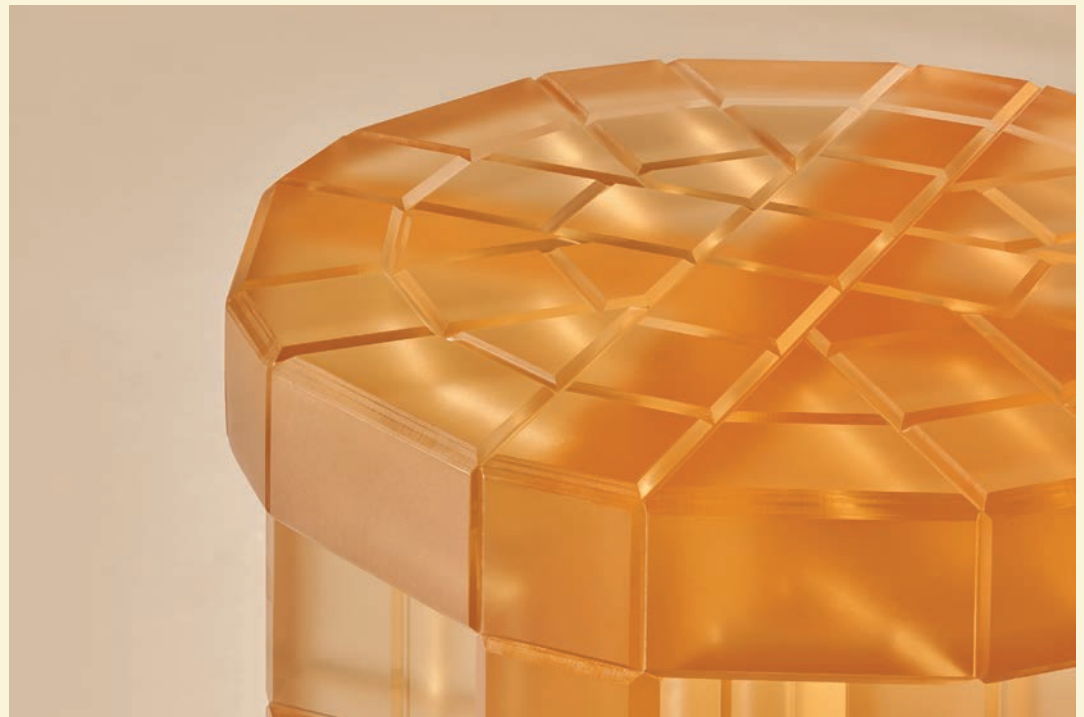


Research Approach

The focus of design ethnology lies in elementary and material objects of everyday life. These everyday items become apparent first and foremost in the aspects of technology and aesthetics. With its practice of archiving, creating inventories, collecting and cataloguing, design ethnology aims to protect immaterial cultural heritage. At the same time, the identification of local and regional resources gives impetus to innovation. Scenarios are developed from the perspective of speculative design, which anticipate alternative forms of usage. Design and future-oriented research meet in speculative design. This 'hypothetical dimension' of design gives rise not only to products or media but also to processes, conditions and atmospheres.









Imprint

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Exhibitions & Initiatives

Illustrative

Handmade in Germany

Radical Craft 1-3

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Hyperion

Urban Makers Club

Deutsche Manufakturenstraße

Craft Atlas Ethiopia

Fachwerk