

Ernst Gamperl Germany b. 1965

'I look for pieces of wood full of character with knots, irregular growth patterns, tears, breaks and interesting details. With the fundamental structure of a piece of wood in mind I am then guided by the raw material and my emotions to bring out its beauty.'



Object in Ash, 2022, Ash, 52H x 46W x 46D cm

January 2023

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Ernst Gamperl Biography

Ernst Gamperl is a self-taught artist and master craftsman who, over many years, has achieved an extraordinary understanding of wood. This has allowed him create beautiful, organic vessel forms primarily in oak, but also in other materials such as ash, maple and beech.

Turning wood when it is wet, he takes his cue for the final shape of the vessel from the natural characteristics of his material. Working the wood at the lathe, he allows it to bulge, warp and crack during the drying process. To hold the cracks and fissures together he uses wooden and wire staples, which are used to great effect and add further interest to each piece. Gamperl observes the distinctive qualities of the wood; the grain, colour, grooves, knots and burrs and enhances their beauty with surface treatment. He waxes and polishes and contrasts the smooth and shiny with the rough-hewn and scarred. Continuously developing his skills, recent work sees the addition of clay powders and minerals to the surface of the form. This allows him achieve interesting tonal variations in finished pieces, while a focus on hollowing has seen the creation of objects with smaller openings. However, while Gamperl's work is technically ambitious, his dialogue with, and connection to, the material is paramount and has become increasingly important in the creation of these understated, contemporary and intriguing vessel forms that have surface qualities that accentuate the intrinsic beauty of wood to great effect.

Ernst Gamperl has won multiple awards for his sculptures including the LOEWE Craft Prize 2017 for his piece *Tree of Life 2*. His work is in museum collections worldwide, this includes The Museum of Arts and Crafts, Hamburg; The International Design Museum/Neue Sammlung, Germany; Collection Issey Miyake, Japan; The National Foundation for Contemporary Art, Paris and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. Gamperl lives and works in Southern Germany.

Selected Collections

Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England
Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany
Die Neue Sammlung – The International Design Museum, Germany
Munich/Design in the Pinakothek der Moderne, Germany
Collection of Issey Miyake, Tokyo, Japan
Fond National d'art Contemporain, Paris, France
Musée des Arts Décoratifs de la Ville de Lausanne, France
Collection Grether, Basel, Switzerland
Schloß Gottorf, Schleswig
Schloß Pillnitz, Dresden, Germany
Nationalmuseum Württemberg, Stuttgart, Germany

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Museum für Angewandte Kunst (Grassimuseum), Leipzig, Germany
 Museum für Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt on the Main, Germany
 Kestner Museum, Hanover, Germany
 Danner Foundation, Munich, Germany
 Collection Vok, Padua, Italy
 Collection Alexander von Vegesack, Hundsbach, Germany

Selected Exhibitions

- 2022 Shades of Winter, Taste Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland
Thomas Bohle / Ernst Gamperl: Erde und Holz, Holzwerkstatt Markus Faißt,
 AT
Zwiesprache, Galerie Göttlicher, Krems-Stein, AT
Houghton Oak Project, Exhibition of work by Ernst Gamperl, Houghton Hall,
 Norfolk, GB
Olaf Otto Becker / Ernst Gamperl: Dialog mit der Natur, Galerie Abtart,
 Stuttgart, DE
- 2021 **Ernst Gamperl, Maria Kristofersson, Matthew Harris, Taste Contemporary, Geneva, Switzerland**
Apma, Chapter Three – from the Apma Collection, Season XVII: Threads of Nature
 Spazio Nobile Gallery, Brussels, B
- 2020 **artgenève [represented by Taste Contemporary], Geneva, Switzerland**
Special Exhibition Ernst Gamperl, Korean Craft Museum 집들이; 공예 House of Craft,
 Korean Craft Museum Cheongju, KR
- 2019 Ernst Gamperl-Dialog mit dem Holz Gewerbemuseum Winterthur, Winterthur, CH
 Art Karlsruhe Axel Pairon Gallery, Karlsruhe, DE
 MASTERPIECE with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, London, GB
 PAD, London with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, London, GB
 Salon, N.Y. with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, N.Y., US
 Design Miami with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, Miami, US
- 2018 **artgenève [represented by Taste Contemporary], Geneva, Switzerland**
 COLLECT with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, London, UK
 NOMAD with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, St . Moritz, CH
 Ernst Gamperl Gallery LVS, Seoul, KR
 Art Karlsruhe Axel Pairon Gallery, Karlsruhe, DE
 MASTERPIECE with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, London, GB
 PAD, London with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, London, GB
 Salon, N.Y. with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, N.Y., US
 Design Miami with Gallery Sarah Myerscough Gallery, Miami, US
 Ernst Gamperl „3rd Exhibition“ Arts & Science, Tokyo, JP
- 2017 **Tresor Contemporary Craft Fair, [represented by Taste Contemporary], Basel, Switzerland**

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- COAM Madrid, Exposición LOEWE Craft Prize 2017
 Chamber Gallery New York, Exposición LOEWE Craft Prize 2017
 Design Miami [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], Miami, USA
 Salon [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], New York, USA
 PAD [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], London, England
 21-21 Design Sight, Tokyo Exposición LOEWE Craft Prize 2017
artgenève [represented by Taste Contemporary], Geneva, Switzerland
- 2016
 Design Miami [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], Miami, USA
 Salon [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], New York, USA
 PAD [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], London, England
 Zeitspuren – Hans Jürgen Simon und Ernst Gamperl Galerie Hilde Leiss, Hamburg, Germany
 Art Nocturne Knokke, Axel Pairon Gallery, Knokke, Belgium
 Artmonte-carlo [represented by Taste], Geneva, Switzerland
 Design Miami/Basel [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], Basel, Switzerland
- 2015
 Ernst Gamperl-Was das Holz sein möchte Buchheim Museum, Bernried, Germany
 Art Nocturne Knokke, Axel Pairon Gallery, Knokke, Belgium
 Design Miami/Basel [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], Basel, Switzerland
 COLLECT [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], London, England
Design is a state of mind, with Martino Gamper, Bolzano, Italy [touring exhibition]
 Artgenève [represented by Taste], Geneva, Switzerland
- 2014
 Knogge Summer Gallery, Axel Pairon Gallery, Knogge, Belgium
 Ernst Gamperl, At the Corner by Arts & Science, Tokyo, Japan
Design is a state of mind, with Martino Gamper, London, England
 Positionen des Gestaltens, Galerie Handwerk, Germany
 COLLECT [represented by Sarah Myerscough Fine Art], London, England
 Blondeau & Cie, [represented by Taste], Geneva, Switzerland
- 2013
 Li Trieb, Ernst Gamperl und Ursula Guttman Galerie Hilde Leiss, Hamburg, Germany
 Ausstellung 50, Jürgen Prüll, Schmuck und Gerät Weiden, Germany
 COLLECT 2013 Gallery Sarah Myerscough Fine Art, London, England
- 2012
 LVS Gallery at Craft Trend Fair, Seoul, Korea
 sequences – christa lühtje, ernst gamperl Galerie im Kelterhaus, Rosi Jäger, Hochheim, Germany
 Ernst Gamperl, LVS Gallery, Seoul, Korea
 COLLECT 2012 Gallery Sarah Myerscough Fine Art, London, England
- 2011
 LVS Gallery at Seoul Design Festival, Seoul, Korea
 Holz, Galerie Carla Renngli, Zug, Switzerland
 Gamperl, Stockmans, Galerie Werft 11, Cologne, Germany
 Materials Revisited: 10th. Triennial for Form and Content, Museum für

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- angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt on the Main, Germany
Grenzwerke II Galerie Eva Maisch, Würzburg, Germany
Hedge Gallery at SF 20, San Francisco, USA
Workshops of the Future, Exempla, International Fair of Handicrafts, Munich, Germany
- 2010 Drehmomente Hans Jürgen Simon Paperworks, Ernst Gamperl Woodwork, Kloster Schloß Bentlage, Rheine, Germany
Display by Arts & Science, Tokyo, Japan
Rotationen – Gefäße aus der Bewegung, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany
- 2009 Ospiti inaspettati, Museo Bagatti Valsecchi, Milan, Italy
Ernst Gamperl – Drehmomente, Lignorama, Riedau, Austria
U-tsu-wa-Lucie Rie, Jennifer Lee, Ernst Gamperl, 21_21 Design Sight, Tokyo, Japan
- 2008 40 years Arts and Craft gallery, Arts and Craft gallery, Munich, Germany
Scoprire il Design – Adventures with Objects, Pinacoteca Agnelli, Torino, Italy
Kleines Landhaus, Saanen, Switzerland
- 2007 Musée départemental du Compagnonnage de Romanèche-Thorins, Romanèche-Thorins, France
Luminaire welcomes Ernst Gamperl, Luminaire, Chicago, USA
- 2006 Galerie Carla Renggli, Zug, Switzerland
Un giro più del cerchio, Oratorio San Rocco, Padua, Italy
Food Festival, Mescolanze, Rovereto, Italy
- 2004 Ernst Gamperl during the ARTbasel, Urs von Unger, Basel, Switzerland
Gewerbemuseum Winterthur, Winterthur, Switzerland
Ernst Gamperl, Gallery Binnen at kunstRAI, Amsterdam, Netherland
I legni di Ernst Gamperl, Arcade Glass, Milan, Italy
Schalen, Arts and Crafts Gallery, Munich, Germany
Collect, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England
Corporal Identity: 9th Triennial for Form and Content, Museum for Arts and Design, NY, USA
- 2003 Giovanni Corvaja, Ernst Gamperl, Michele de Lucchi, Jacqueline Ryan, Galerie Hilde Leiss, Hamburg, Germany
Werkstattausstellung, Claus Tittmann, Thurnau, Germany
Corporal Identity: 9th. Triennial for Form and Content, Museum angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt on the Main, Germany
Ernst Gamperl Holzobjekte, Galerie Carla Renggli, Zug, Switzerland
Traces of Nature, Hand and Spirit, Studio Michele de Lucchi, Milan, Italy
laboratorio 15, Milan, Italy
I.H.M., Neue Messe Munich, Germany
Kleines Landhaus, Saanen, Switzerland
- 2002 Volumes in Wood, Cream 136, Singapore
DiamantHolzTextil Galerie Hilde Leiss, Hamburg, Germany
Exempla, International Fair of Handicrafts, Munich, Germany

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	domizil, Basel, Switzerland
	Werkstattausstellung, Claus Tittmann, Thurnau, Germany
	Contemporary Decorative Arts Exhibition, Sotheby's, London, England
2001	A tavola con il Design, dadriade, Milan, Italy
2000	Ernst Gamperl, Holz, Galerie im Kelterhaus, Rosi Jäger, Hochheim, Germany
	Kloster Schloß Bentlage, Bentlage-Rheine, Germany
	Volumes in Wood, Miyake Design Studio Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
	von Holz zu Holz, Ernst Gamperl, Cees Andriessen, Galerie Geymüller, Essen – Werden, Germany
1999	Touch Wood, von der Keule zum Design, Bernische Stiftung für Angewandte Kunst und Gestaltung, Bern, Switzerland
	20 years gallery Hilde Leiss, Hamburg, Germany
	Ernst Gamperl, Natan, Brussels, Belgium
	BMW, Milan, Italy
	The Conran Shop, Paris, France
1998	Ernst Gamperl, Wood, Strenesse, Hamburg, Germany
	Gallery Hilde Leiss, Hamburg, Germany
	Gallery Gierg, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
1997	Natan, Brussels, Germany
	Futonhaus, Zurich, Switzerland
	Gallery Geymüller, Essen, Werden, Germany
	International Woodturning Exhibition, Philadelphia, US
	Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany
1995	Ernst Gamperl – Contrasts, Arts and Crafts Gallery, Munich, Germany
1994	Gallery Hilde Leiss, Hamburg, Germany
	Gallery Slavik, Vienna, Austria
	Rotunda, Museum für kunst und kulturgeschichte, Dortmund, Germany
	Ten years Danner Award, Arts and Crafts Gallery, Munich, Germany
	Compact Forms – Wooden objects, arts and crafts gallery, Munich, Germany
	6th Triennial of contemporary German Arts and Crafts, Museum für Angewandte Kunst (grassimuseum), Leipzig, Germany
	6th Triennial of contemporary German Arts and Crafts, Museum für Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt am Main / Germany
	International Woodturning Exhibition, Victoria, Australia
	Wood – A Raw Material of the Future, international green fair, Berlin, Germany
1993	Wooden Bowls, Arts and Crafts gallery, Munich, Germany
	New York Gift Fair, New York, US
	Danner Award Exhibition, New Residency, Bamberg, Germany

Selected Awards

2017	LOEWE Craft Prize winner for work from the <i>Tree of Life collection</i>
2002	Hessian State Award: 3rd prize, Autumn Fair, Frankfurt on the Main, Germany

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1999	Bavarian State Award, International Fair of Handicrafts, Munich, Germany Danner Award, Munich, Germany
1998	Hessian State Award: 3rd prize, Autumn Fair, Frankfurt on the Main, Germany
1994	International Woodturning Exhibition and Competition, Victoria: Final winner, best piece of show, 1st prizes in four other categories
1993	Danner Award, Munich, Germany Hessian State Award: 1st prize, Autumn Fair, Frankfurt on the Main, Germany
1992	Bavarian State Award, International Fair of Handicrafts, Munich, Germany
