

PRESS RELEASE

**WELCOME TO THE MATERIAL_LAB**
Inspirations. Experiments. Ideas.

Glass, porcelain or cork: DESIGN STUDIO NIRUK harbours a very special passion for materials. In their studio near Cologne (Germany), designers Nina Ruthe and David Antonin have set up their own Material_Lab, where they dedicate themselves every day to the subject of form and materiality, where they experiment and create new products – the NIRUK way.

Design is a process. Perfecting a form in all its facets takes time. Time for experimenting, for developing new ideas and approaches, for finding the right materials and tools. In its Material_Lab, DESIGN STUDIO NIRUK explores new colours, forms and textures, as well as the interplay of these qualities. For the designer duo, experiments are just as important as is a clear conceptual design embodied in the finished product. They create symbioses, they search for innovative alternatives and they put the unconventional in the spotlight.

Nina and David immerse themselves deeply in the design and development process of their products. Their individual approach is just as important to these designers as is the final product itself:

“WE WANT TO UNDERSTAND THE THINGS THAT SURROUND US.
EXPERIMENTING AND IMMERSING OURSELVES IN THE PROCESSES IS
THE BASIS ON WHICH WE CREATE NEW DESIGNS. WE TAKE EXISTING
THINGS AS INSPIRATION, WE COMBINE AND CREATE NEW THINGS.”

As far as materials are concerned, NIRUK are driven by curiosity and by their love of experimenting. Following the intensive development process of CORCRETE – a specially developed material made of cork and concrete – Nina and David have turned their attention to working with glass. In combination with modular form construction and their extensive know-how of glass blowing, they have created a multitude of unconventional and special products. Currently, they are especially attracted by porcelain: the first results are the CALM warmer, the DIP wardrobe knob, as well as new surfaces and textures.

To be continued...

For further information and images:

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