

CZ

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Integral Park Bench with Bike Stand – MA project

Department of Design of the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design
in Prague

supervisor: David Karásek

This park bench, into which the designer has fit a bike stand, is a economical solution. Grooves in the seat planks and channel bars of the construction stabilize the bicycle tires. The cyclist can secure the vehicle against theft, chaining it to a raised metal construction with a basic lock. This kind of design saves materials, production time, and money, facilitates logistics, and simplifies assembly and conservation. Moreover, it takes up less space in the street or the park, where greenery and not city furniture should dominate. The bench does not dazzle with its sophisticated form – on the contrary, it aims for neutrality. The minimalist construction does not detract from its fine proportions, refined finishings, and modern appearance. It fits equally well in the park landscape and in the city. This design is an example of responsible thinking about public space. The bench is currently being produced by mmcity (Czech Republic).



booths, potholes, trees etc. The idea to use four typeface styles to show directions of the figures' movement, combined with the fact that they are naked in the regular style and clothed in the bold, is simply fantastic. The fun is not only in looking at the ready-made compositions, but also in making your own.

Filip Blažek and Linda Kudrnovská

CIESZYN CASTLE DISTINCTION

Anna Dul → p. 30

The *UNI* basin is a new design from the Educational Programs and Industry Collaboration Studio at the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań. It was created in collaboration with Marmorin and has already gone into production. Both well-planned and functional, this product will surely delight more than the elderly and the disabled. Nothing would seem to indicate its special designation. The intriguing shallow and elongated receptacle accommodates a wheelchair underneath, and there are towel-hangers that also serve as handles; this is only one of the conveniences that arose from the designer's close collaboration with the users and the producer. In 2050 one half of Europeans will be over 60 years old, which gives us the imperative to improve everyday objects for those who are less capable. The ones produced in Poland today look like something you would install in a garage.

Ewa Gołębiowska

PLUSMINUS VISUAL INTELLIGENCE DISTINCTION

Ondřej Elfmark → p. 31

"I take a bike ride in the park, I meet a friend, we sit on a bench for a chat. Instead of putting the bike on the grass or the sidewalk, I just put it at the end of the bench." If you were to see this bench in a park or on the street, you might not even pay attention to it, you just use it. We think that the "invisibility" and simplicity of Ondřej

Elfmark's idea is an important factor in his design. We also know how hard it is to come up with a good, simple idea. There can be no doubt that after the culture of the fuel engine there will be a return to pedestrian or bicycle traffic – to environmentally-friendly ways of getting around. Sports in parks and other urban public spaces are becoming more popular. The design of furniture and urban accessories for users' new behaviors is becoming essential. Elfmark has found a simple, yet clever solution for combining a bench and a bike rack. He has succeeded in reducing the number of pieces that make up our surroundings. His idea saves energy, materials, labor, and space. All of these issues should be considered in responsible, ecological, and ethical designs for the 21st century. I also like the fact that the design considers other users, e.g. skateboarders. It can happen that such simple solutions with natural applicability go unnoticed; and this is another reason why design critics should point them out.

Zsolt Czako and Krisztina Somogyi

CIESZYN CASTLE DISTINCTION

Marta Gawin → p. 13

A work which has to be read in its entirety. Apart from her impressive design work, this graduate has inventoried the current state of things and best designs in other countries. It is worth seeing how the designer is able to rein in the chaos – even at a state level. An important and necessary work. We are all crossing our fingers for its implementation!

Ewa Gołębiowska

2+3D EDITORS' DISTINCTION

András Kerékgyártó → p. 34

The value of Kerékgyártó's work comes, in part, from his creative use of scientific research. The sitting position has been of interest in ergonomics