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## 56 Table by Jörg Boner for Wogg

Zurich

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**"This design is based on a really simple concept," says Jörg Boner, talking about his 56 Table for Swiss furniture brand Wogg. "It just had to match the chair I'd already made for Wogg. But the problem was that the chair was too complicated to copy."**

Launched at IMM Cologne, the 56 table is purposefully minimalist: a 28mm thick tabletop rested on top of four plain wooden legs. By contrast, the chair it was designed to match, the Wogg 50 (2010), is surprisingly complex, its moulded plywood backrest folded like origami into its splayed legs and seat.

"I tried to use the fold of the chair in the table, but it became too complicated," says Boner. "Instead, we tried to do something quieter and got rid of a lot of details from the chair. It's much more beautiful - and much more right - to try and distance it from the shape of the chair."

The table is more demure than the ostentatious 50 chair, which won the 2011 Red Dot Design Award. Even the colour palette is more muted: whereas the 50 chair came in a variety of bright colours, the 56 table is only available in plain ash, oak or walnut. The only obvious correspondence between the two designs is a slight curvature of the 56's tabletop and legs, a feature which recalls the more dramatic folds of its predecessor.

"I'm a new modernist," says Boner, a 44 year old product designer and teacher at Lausanne's ECAL design school. "I like very simple things like the table, but if you look at the 50 chair there's a lot of complexity there. What I like to deal with is those two elements, which are 180° opposites. What is interesting is to wrestle with something complex and sophisticated, but to give the user something simple."

The 56 table is Boner's fourth collaboration with Wogg, a little known Swiss brand founded by cousins Willi Glaeser and Otto Glaeser in 1983. The company is based just outside of Zurich and, at present, only works with Swiss designers such as Hans Eichenberger and Atelier Oi. But Wogg may be about to become more international.

"It's a beautiful company with a beautiful history, but they're a little bit shy," says Boner. "Now they're growing and working with different designers. They're about to work with a British designer."

Boner however will not be drawn over who that may be.

"It's forbidden to say," he says laughing. "All I can tell you is that he's a little bit younger than me."

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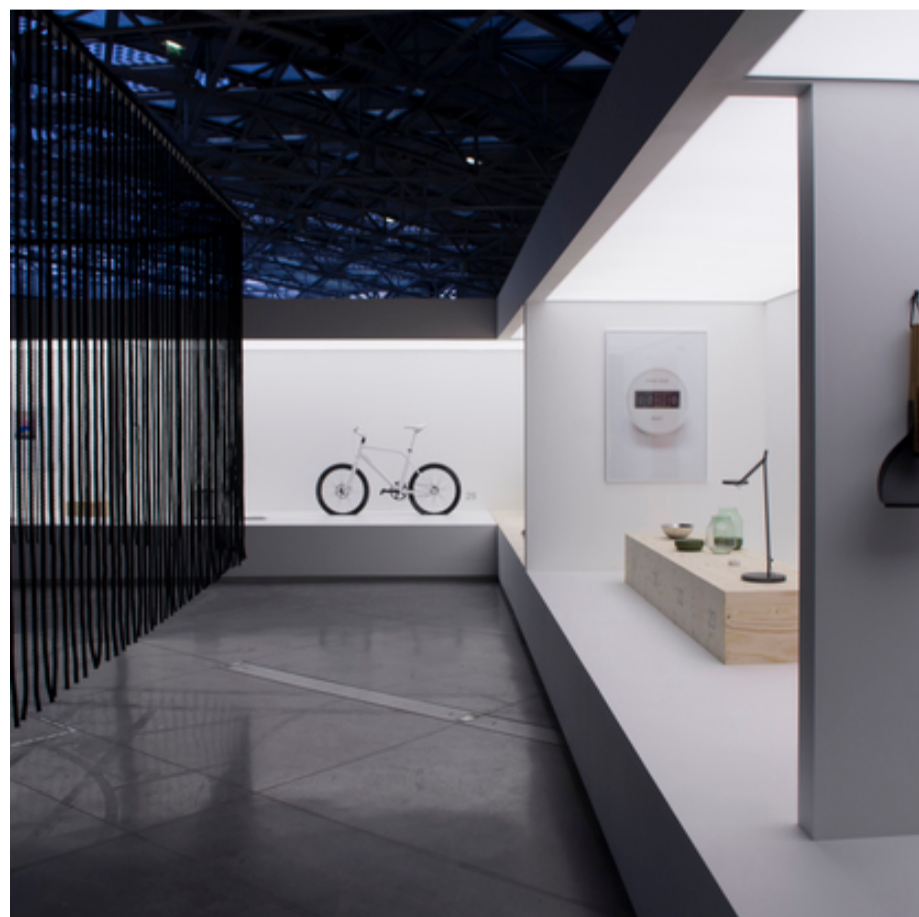


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