



The Austrian Virtual Exhibition © Photo: Cielo Alejandra | ADORNO

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Austrian Collection  
London, UK  
London Design Festival  
18-26 September 2021

## “Postapocalyptic Kaffeehaus” - *A future view of re-established rituals*

Adorno is pleased to announce the Austrian collection, “Postapocalyptic Kaffeehaus”, as a part of Adorno London 2021. Presented in the familiar setting of a Viennese coffee house sometime after a future apocalypse, “Postapocalyptic Kaffeehaus” examines what will become of habits once the world in which those habits were created drastically changes. Curated by VIENNA DESIGN WEEK director Gabriel Roland, the collection features eleven designers whose work reflects on what remains of our rituals when circumstances change.

Looking to a radically changed future, “Postapocalyptic Kaffeehaus” re-establishes the storied experience of the coffee house with pieces attuned not only to the needs of the ritual itself, but to the aesthetics of an altered world. Featuring the work of Anna Paul, Daniel Stuhlpfarrer, Katrina Schneider, KIM + HEEP, Peter Sandbichler, MADAME Architects, Onka Allmayer-Beck, Studio Bonpart, Studio Högl Borowski, studionero, and Michael Anastassiades + J. & L. Lobmeyr, the collection speaks to the ways in which design can preserve and revive the everyday.

Supported by:



**VIENNA  
DESIGN  
WEEK**

[www.adorno.design](http://www.adorno.design)  
[press@adorno.design](mailto:press@adorno.design)

Besides the virtual exhibition from 18-26 September, the collection will be exhibited from 24 September – 3 October at Festival Headquarters during VIENNA DESIGN WEEK.

“When the end of the world comes, I’ll go to Vienna. Everything happens ten years later there.”

There might be a kernel of truth to this shot of vitriol the writer Karl Kraus is said to have fired against the backwardness of his home of many years, Vienna. Could it be that the veil of lethargy, morbidity, and misanthropy Vienna is so joyously cultivating has immunised the city against the apocalypse? That, like a vaccine, there’s enough flirtation with death to scare real death away, if only for a while?

It’s no coincidence that Vienna’s most popular era, the fin-de-siècle of the 19th century seems to be a time eagerly, albeit passively, waiting for its own end and all the further horrible ends of the 20th century. Even its name has an ‘end’ in itself. Of course, by now Vienna is a lively and diverse city thriving on its social consensus, its hospitality and creative industry. Still, notwithstanding their brutal cousins, here the polite shadows of the past brush past you with a gentle “Memento mori” on their pursed lips more often than in other places.

So, you better get a dose of decadently raw beauty straight from the best Viennese workshops to prep against any coming small apocalypses. And where better to celebrate our heated ennui as the world around us goes under than the famous Viennese coffee houses. That’s an institution that will surely survive the world’s end. In fact, they will be better than ever, once ‘Wien ohne Wiener’, the Vienna without the Viennese desired by every real Viennese person, is achieved.

Jokes aside, the objects of our “Postapocalyptic Kaffeehaus” are poetic interventions contemplating what remains of our rituals when circumstances change. As sensitive observers, the designers open a variety of windows: radical, humorous, intuitive or conceptual, raw or refined, they all strive not to wallow in cynic dystopianism but to reimagine, build, and focus on what we cherish.

**MEET THE CURATOR  
GABRIEL ROLAND**



*“Our lives are shaped by rituals, which in turn are embedded in the objects we surround ourselves with. The “Postapocalyptic Kaffeehaus” examines what the core of these symbolic behaviour patterns might be and what remains even when the circumstances change radically.”*

- Gabriel Roland

Gabriel Roland is the newly appointed director of VIENNA DESIGN WEEK. Besides leading the team organising Austria’s largest curated design festival, he is directly responsible for many of its international relations, commissions and special projects. For example, he initiated the Virtual Festival Headquarters of 2020 and co-curates the festival’s renowned ‘Passionswege’ format, which brings together design and craft. Roland has a background in textile design as well as fashion and art writing. Apart from VIENNA DESIGN WEEK, he was involved in projects bridging topics as diverse as toys, digital media, pop culture, and the contemporary art market.

**VISITOR INFORMATION**



**Physical Exhibition**

Hosted at [VIENNA DESIGN WEEK](#)  
Festival Headquarters  
Sachsenplatz 4–6,  
1200 Vienna, Austria

Dates: 24 September - 3 October 2021  
Open Daily 11am–8pm

*Press preview on 23 September  
Contact Ana Berlin  
([ana@abc-works.today](mailto:ana@abc-works.today)) for details*



**Virtual Exhibition**

Our lives are shaped by rituals, which are embedded in the objects we surround ourselves with. “Postapocalyptic Kaffeehaus” examines what the core of these symbolic behaviour patterns might be and what remains even when the circumstances radically change. It suggests some direct, raw, and primal approaches to form and materiality by peeling back the civilised veneer.

Visit the virtual exhibition  
18-26 September at  
[www.adorno.london](http://www.adorno.london)

**PARTICIPANTS**

Anna Paul

Daniel Stuhlpfarrer

Katrina Schneider

KIM + HEEP

Peter Sandbichler

MADAME Architects

Michael Anastassiades +

J. & L. Lobmeyr

Onka Allmayer-Beck

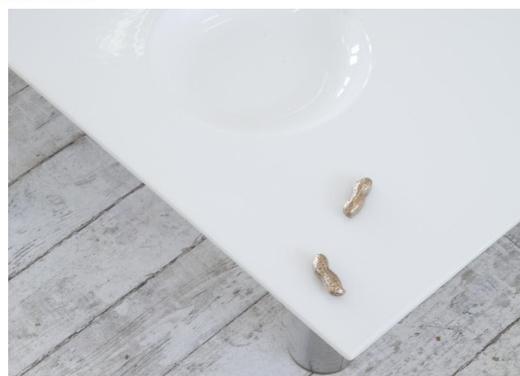
Studio Bonpart

Studio Högl Borowski

studionero

## THE COLLECTION

[Download High-res images](#)



**Left:** Studio Bonpart, "Kandl", **Mid:** Daniel Stuhlpfarrer, "Dry Bodies", **Right:** Katrina Schneider, "20post'wares'20"  
**Left:** MADAME Architects, "Rare Cacti", **Mid:** KIM + HEEP, "Spezerei", **Right:** Studio Högl Borowski, "Baiser"  
**Left:** studionero, "Mokkup", **Mid:** Michael Anastassiades + J. & L. Lobmeyr, "Flint", **Right:** Onka Allmayer-Beck, "Kaffeehaus"  
**Left:** Peter Sandbichler, "LDDE Chandelier", **Right:** Anna Paul, "Plate Table"  
© Images courtesy of the designers

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## NOTES FOR EDITORS

Title	Adorno London 2021: <i>Designing Futures</i>
Dates	18-26 September 2021
Virtual Exhibition	<a href="http://www.adorno.london">www.adorno.london</a>
Participating Countries	Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden
Images	Courtesy of the designers & photographers
Press kit	<a href="#">Link</a>
Press Contact	David Gorrod, <a href="mailto:press@adorno.design">press@adorno.design</a>

## ABOUT ADORNO

Adorno is a digital gallery for the best of collectible design and craft from around the globe. Selected by a network of on-the-ground curators from more than 30 design cities, Adorno's collections provide a unique insight into the world's diverse creative communities – and celebrate the work of the designers shaping them.

Each collection showcases only unique or limited-edition contemporary works, spanning the fields of furniture, textiles, ceramics, sculpture, and design-art. The curatorial approach varies from collection to collection – just as design culture varies from community to community – but every object featured is contemporary in style, experimental in approach, and exceptional in material quality.

The designers featured include both established names and emerging talents at the cusp of their careers, ensuring each collection is a snapshot of the people, techniques, styles, and thinking that define the modern making culture of each region. With each collection launch, Adorno adds a new chapter to the global design story.

In its essence, the infrastructure of Adorno includes the e-commerce platform ([www.adorno.design](http://www.adorno.design)), an international legal setup, and a global cost-efficient shipping solution that enables autonomous collaboration between curators and designers to promote their work and transact with a growing segment of international buyers. Besides running the online platform, Adorno exhibits at major design events worldwide.