

## Design and Transformation: Stories of Czech Design 1990 - 2020

*Press release*

Two interconnected exhibitions showcasing stories of Czech design will be on show in Notting Hill this September as part of this year's London Design Festival. Whether you're interested in current Czech design, from traditional glassware to technology-driven innovations, or intrigued by design development over the last thirty years, *Design and Transformation* is a brilliant starting point to learn more about the ever-evolving Czech design rooted in the country's rich cultural and craft heritage.

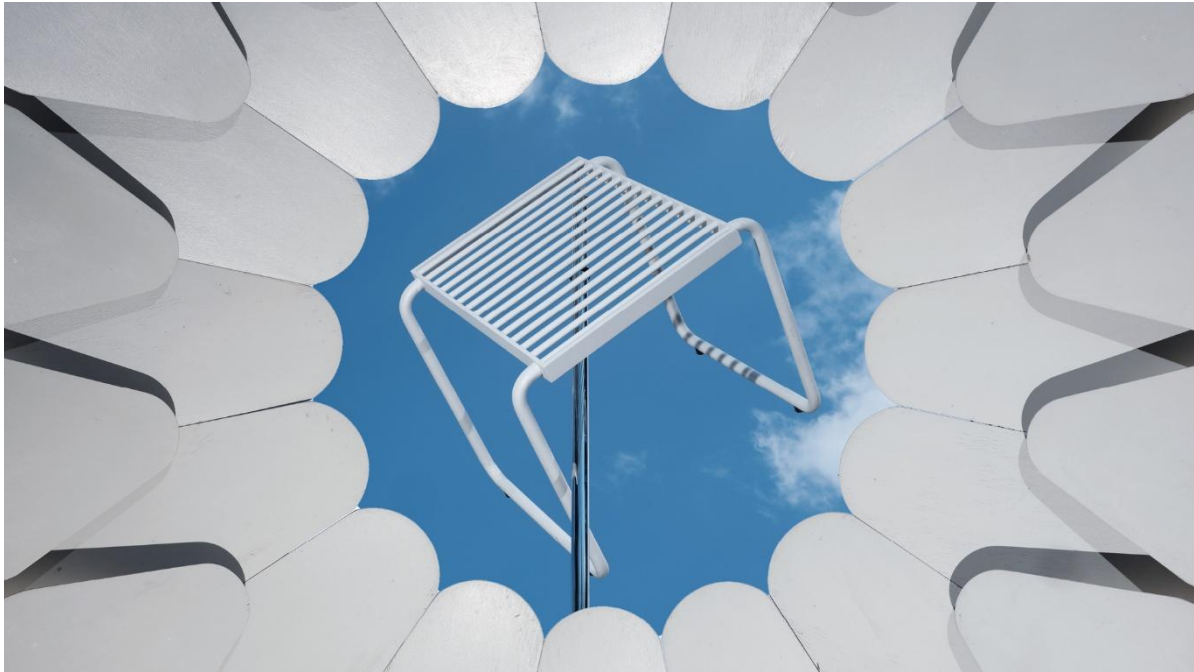


Still from the animated film (TON), Design and Transformation exhibition, 2022, © Collective of authors led by Michaela Režová, UMPRUM Archive

*'We present Czech design through its history and current production. Czech designers have shown remarkable capacity for adaptation and transformation. In the 1990s, they navigated the rapidly changing political and economic landscape of Central Europe. Today they continue to experiment flexibly with new technologies, often blending innovation with respect for tradition,'* explains Tereza Vernerová Volná, curator of the exhibition.

The historical dimension of the past thirty years is represented by the **Czech Design Index** — an extensive database created by acclaimed design and architecture theorist Adam Štěch in collaboration with graphic designers Matěj Činčera and Jan Kloss. Through the installation, visitors will learn about the history of Czech (and formerly Czechoslovak) design, examining a wide range of works created between 1990 and 2020.

The current state of Czech design is represented by two main component of the exhibition — recent **photographs by Vojtěch Veškrna** and a **series of animated documentary films**.



Mmcite, photo by Vojtěch Veškrna

Veškrna's photographs offer a behind-the-scenes look at twelve Czech companies, reflecting on the diversity of the contemporary Czech design landscape — from furniture companies like TON, mmcité, and Egoé, to the car brand Škoda Auto, glass studios Bomma and Lasvit, game development studio Amanita Design, 3D printing companies, and many more. The documentary films, on the other hand, present six Czech companies through short films blending authentic footage with animation. Created by students and graduates of the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague and the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, under the artistic direction of Michaela Režová, the films seamlessly convey the atmosphere of production, the creative process, and the relationship between designers, technology, and materials.



Stills from the animated films ŠKODA (left) and BOMMA (right), Design and Transformation exhibition, 2022, © Collective of authors led by Michaela Režová, UMPRUM Archive

Showcasing both the history and present state of the full breadth of Czech design, ***Design and Transformation: Stories of Czech Design 1990–2020*** offers a complex picture of Czech design as a dynamic, diverse, and inventive field that has long won its place on the global design scene – and rightfully so.

*,The journey of Czech design over the past thirty years is immaculately demonstrated by this exhibition that we are thrilled to present at Czech Centre’s Bouda Gallery as part of this year’s London Design Festival. The exhibition underpins Czech designers’ commitment to creative innovation and its global competitiveness’,* adds Přemysl Pela, Director of the Czech Centre.

***Design and Transformation: Stories of Czech Design 1990–2020*** is organised by the Czech Centre and the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague (UMPRUM), in partnership with the Czech Embassy in London.

Dates: 13 September - 24 October 2025

Venue: Bouda Gallery, Czech Centre London, 132 Palace Gardens Terrace, London W8 4RT

Opening Hours:

Tue – Fri 10am – 5pm; Sat 13, Sun 14 and Mon 15 September - 11am – 5pm

Website: [Design and Transformation / Czech Centre London](https://www.czechcentre.org.uk/exhibitions/design-and-transformation)

PRIVATE VIEW:

Friday 12 September 2025, 6.30 – 8.30pm

[https://bit.ly/DesignAndTransformation\\_PrivateView\\_12Sep](https://bit.ly/DesignAndTransformation_PrivateView_12Sep)

Curator: **Tereza Vernerová Volná**

Graphic Design: **Tereza Saitz**

Installation: **Mikuláš Procházka**

Photo Exhibition: **Vojtěch Veškrna**

Short Animated Films: **Collective of authors led by Michaela Režová, 2022**

Czech Design Index: **Created by Adam Štěch**

Graphic Design: **Matěj Činčera, Jan Kloss**

Production: **Michaela Kapláňková**

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