



RICHARD LAMPERT

Steffen Kehrle

1976
born in Illertissen

2001 – 2007
Studies Industrial Design,
Wien

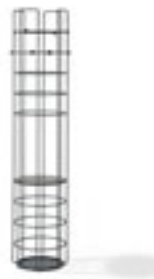
2009
Foundation of ASK
Atelier Steffen Kehrle

For the German designer, Steffen Kehrle, the question "What if...?" describes the freedom that a designer has. For him, this question represents a special skill, and also a challenge, for the design profession, namely the ability to think independently of existing conventions and customary mindsets. Steffen Kehrle implements this freedom in a variety of ways. Ambitious and passionate, keen to experiment and always curious, he creates universal design for the future – with clear principles and without compromise. Always in focus: sustainable solutions for the execution of designs that place people centre stage and that will also remain relevant in the future. For this versatile designer, every day is a new day where he will approach a design task differently to the day before, gladly incorporating newly gained insights and enriching encounters – and only too willing to add a touch of humour and to and play with the tried and tested.

Once he had discovered the design profession, the fascination was great – and his future path was mapped out. Born in 1976, Steffen Kehrle studied industrial design at the Vienna University of Applied Arts from 2001 to 2007, with Paolo Piva, Borek Šípek, Ross Lovegrove and Hartmut Esslinger as his teachers. He was a perfectionist and his time as a student was characterised by thinking outside the box, being bold, wide awake and inquisitive. He used the opportunity to acquaint himself with different standpoints, guided by his teachers – and to ultimately find his own position. And even then, he chose internships that suited his taste – at design studios that designed products and spaces with a focussed and holistic mindset, including BMW (Munich), Busse Design (Ulm), Starczewski Design (Ulm) and Frédéric Dedelley (Zurich). Remaining true to his style, he joined Stefan Diez's studio (Munich) as a designer in 2007, where he collaborated on numerous product developments over a period of two years. Since founding his Atelier Steffen Kehrle in 2009, he has consistently pursued his clear design philosophy.



2014
Design Mono
see Product →



2015
Design Bazar wardrobe
see Product →



2024
Design OneTwo mirror

Together with his team, he continues to design minimalist, functional and versatile products, exhibition spaces and interiors across all design disciplines. Less as a visual communication agency and more as „design makers who think outside the box“, from programming and digital design, such as the design of websites or the implementation of configurators, as well as graphic design solutions right through to research projects and process optimisation in production. He is enthusiastic about questioning the status quo, reorganising things and detaching them from their familiar context. At the same time, he passes on his knowledge and experience through teaching and lectures: from 2009 to 2014, as a lecturer, in particular for furniture design and exhibition architecture, at the Kunsthochschule Kassel, and from 2020 to 2022 as a guest professor of a design foundation course and with a project course at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano. Since 2023, Steffen Kehrlé has been professor of object and furniture design at the Rosenheim University of Applied Sciences.

The material of wood and innovations of all kinds characterise Steffen Kehrlé's own course of study. Initially, he mostly created his furniture and designs from this renewable raw material, and new technologies fascinated him from the very first day of his studies. The creation of new product types has been his driving force ever since. Attributes that he combines in his 2014 Mono step stool for Richard Lampert – at least initially. Since, at one point or another, this small multifunctional piece of furniture took a different path than initially intended. This is exactly what characterises Steffen Kehrlé: rethinking, experimenting, improving. Today, Mono has a unique shape to which it owes its stability, and it is made from recyclable and food-safe polyethylene using a rotational moulding process.

Mono marked the start of the collaboration between Steffen Kehrlé and Richard Lampert. It was followed by the Bazar coat stand collection, a reinterpretation of the conventional standing coat rack. With the ingeniously designed OneTwo mirror, the designer continues his collaboration with the Stuttgart-based furniture company. As consistent as ever: appearing to be separated in the centre, the minimalist metal frame of OneTwo comprises two mirror surfaces on different levels: the upper part of the mirror is offset to the rear by a few centimetres. The effect: a play with space and reflection unfolds. A familiar everyday product that creates new perspectives.