

## 33 • Yesterday and today

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*Twentieth century furnishings and contemporary items. It's the mix-and-match proposed by Lichterloh, the design gallery two steps from the Ring. In Vienna the present meets the past*

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Two shop windows right in the centre of Vienna, a few minutes from the Ring: one historic, in carved wood and boiserie, the other modern, in unmistakably Seventies brushed steel.

Two entrances in the refined Gumpendorferstrasse, the street lined with fashion stores and trendy galleries in the Austrian capital city. Two souls: one vintage, the other contemporary. «That's precisely the case», explain Dagmar Moser, Christof Stein and Phillipp-Markus Pernhaupt, «Lichterloh proposes a selection of XX century design, national furniture of that period, but also a collection of our own».

Our passion for design started in the '90s, «an epoch when vintage was not yet the rage and auctions of modern design were not as frequent as they are now».

So Dagmar, Moser and Christof, friends and partners, opened the first branch of Lichterloh

and, a few years later, the new gallery, a seven-hundred square metre store and one of the favourite haunts of architects, interior designers and collectors around Europe. «We travel, visit small shops in France, Holland, Italy, Germany and England. We contact collectors and dealers».

A frenzied activity which involves them all the year round. And has led them to discover furnishing accessories which are the hallmark of Lichterloh: benches, carpets, fitness equipment produced in the Czech Republic in the '30s and '50s that are décor items of great appeal. But there's more. «We want to offer our customers the best of design. By interpreting their taste for the beautiful, past and present».

That's why, in addition to offering cult XX century objects, Markus Pernhaupt, the group's creative artist, has designed a collection that quotes the masterpieces of Jean Prouvé and Charlotte Perriand. While perfectly mirroring the Lichterloh style: poised between a passion for the XX century and a taste for the contemporaneous.