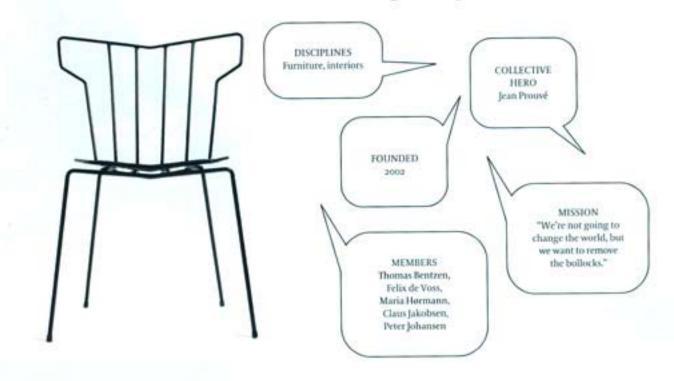
THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN MAGAZINE — The LD: 40: Design Collectives ..., Beijing's Revolutionary Media Wall Stuck on Packing Tape A Grumpy Review of The Architecture of Happiness The New Gramercy Park Hotel

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Remove Copenhagen





Remove began four years ago when its five members rented a showroom to present objects that didn't mesh with their class assignments at the Danish Design School. "A teacher once told us that pine was not good for 'design' furniture because its time had come and gone," says Thomas Bentzen, 36. This was all the incentive they needed to create a collection of low, square tables and boxy chairs all made of the knotty wood—works that both recalled and repudiated the furniture of their childhoods.

The group's name is also its philosophy. "There are a lot of things we want to remove," says Felix de Voss, 30. "In Denmark, everyone has his own opinion about design. But we all agree you need to stop designing before you kill the freshness." A typical starting point for the collective is seeing how little material they can use to make a space inside another space. Their answer: Hus, a pink steel picnic table surrounded by a hollow A-frame structure.

Hus was a joint effort from the start, but on some projects—such as Peter Johansen's T-shaped end tables, which appear formed from a single ribbon of metal, or de Voss's elegant square dining table—the group agrees on a material and an aesthetic, splits up to resolve the piece privately, and then reconvenes. Says de Voss: "We join up because you need to hear from someone that something is crap. It's kind of a love thing."

WWW.zemove.dk — TIM MCKEOUGH