

9 New Generation Dutch Designers You Should Know

BY JANA PERKOVIC | FEBRUARY 26, 2016



Thier Van Dalen: Smoke triangle vase
(Courtesy Design Days Dubai)

The Dutch are great at design. Not only do they have one of the world's best design schools, in Eindhoven, they also are world-renowned for having a country that's just so damn well put together. Anyone arriving at Schiphol airport in Amsterdam will notice immediately how effortlessly well-coordinated the airport seems, from the typefaces to the color scheme of everything from the newsstands to the supermarket. For Design Days Dubai in March, Dutch Creative Industry, an initiative of several Dutch creative industry companies with the Dutch government, has selected a number of design talents to give an overview of what's hot in The Netherlands. Here are some of the most interesting emerging designers and makers, all using interesting materials, techniques, and concepts.

[Studio Mieke Meijer](#) is a collaboration between Mieke Meijer, an Eindhoven Design Academy graduate, and structural engineer Roy Letterlé. From their Eindhoven workshop, the two create spatial structures centered on the interplay between space and its surroundings, as well as teach and take commercial commissions.

Symbiosis between objects, elements, and parts, which are visually and technically combined, mixed, and intersected, is the leading theme in the work by the one-man show [Studio Rolf.fr](#). After studies in architecture and urban planning at TU Delft, and having established two of his own architecture agencies in Utrecht, Rolf arrived at a focus solely on furniture and product design.

A graduate of Design Academy Eindhoven, [Dirk Vander Kooij](#) was the first person to successfully print larger objects on a 3D printer, and considers himself a new kind of craftsman, one who embraces technology and machines, but in an artist-studio setting.

Ruben Thier and Iris van Daalen of [Thier and van Dalen](#) both share a fascination of colors, structures, and the transience of nature, translating this in a minimalist design language. Their works are spacious and poetic, combining traditional craftsmanship with new applications and techniques.

Saying that they “want to increase people’s awareness of what they see, heightening their ability (and desire) to understand it,” Studio Roex toys with familiarity and recognition with the transparency of a clever advertisement.

Daughter of a restoration constructor, [Maja Kozel](#) now runs her own architecture and interior design firm, working around Europe and the Middle East.

In a different generation from others profiled here, Professor [Kas Oosterhuis](#) is an innovator and disruptor in his field. Currently leading the knowledge center for Nonstandard and Interactive Architecture at the TU Delft, Oosterhuis teaches on nonstandard structures, and the transition from static to dynamic buildings: embedding IT into all phases of the building, participatory design, and interactive buildings.

After graduating at Eindhoven in 2005, [Stephan Siepermann](#) opened a studio in Utrecht, where he creates material concepts, furniture, and interior product, with an extra layer of cleverness, humor, and social engagement, giving a conversational quality to his products - such as a plywood safe that comes with a ‘gold’ bar in 99.9% oak.

A Rotterdam designer who likes to work with low-cost, undervalued materials, [Rick Tegelaar](#) developed a machine to shape chicken wire in a controlled and accurate way, creating high-quality products.

To see more, click on the slideshow.

“Design Days Dubai” runs from March 14 through 18 in Dubai.

