





With care Hiroshi Takata chose the name Lemnos for his company and brand:
The Greek island of Lemnos in ancient mythology is home to the god Hephaistos, the god of all craftsmen.

A clock is not only for telling us time,
a clock is a masterpiece of craftsmanship and design.
It forms space. It is not a fading fashion, it is timeless.

History of Lemnos



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TAKATA Lemnos’ history began in Shirogane-machi, Takaoka in 1947 as a brass raw casting manufacturer of Buddhist altar fittings for Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. In 1963, the factory was transferred to Takaoka, the present site of the TAKATA Lemnos headquarters. During its period of manufacturing Buddhist altar fittings, and following an introduction from a friend, TAKATA Lemnos began producing and supplying clock frames made using brass raw casting or lacquering for Seikosha Co., Ltd. (currently Seiko Clock Inc.). In 1977, the Toide plant was established in Takaoka douki danchi (Takaoka copperware industrial park). Eighteen years after its first involvement in the manufacture of clocks, former president Hiroshi Takata felt a strong de-

sire to “receive direct evaluation” from customers to ascertain whether the company was conveying its strong manufacturing heritage. This encouraged us to take the first step toward developing our own fully fledged products. In 1986, Lemnos signed a contract with EX design Co., Ltd (located in Fukui, directed by Kazuo Kawasaki) related to the development of products and launched the GANBARA brand in 1988. Shortly after this, we began the full-scale export of our original items to Europe. In 1989, “HOLA, ILUS, TROS” won the Good Design Award out of a variety of GANBARA brand items. In addition, HOLA was selected for inclusion in a permanent collection at Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum. In 1991, the company changed its name to TAKATA Co., Ltd. and underwent a reorganization. The Lemnos Tokyo



top left: Founder Hiroshi Takata
top center: Riki Watanabe with the first make of a Lemnos branded clock designed by himself
others: impressions from Takata Lemnos manufacturing site

office was opened at Takanawa, Minato-ku and the name was changed again during the following year, this time to TAKATA Lemnos Inc. It actively joined overseas exhibitions such as the MACEF Fair in Milan, Italy, Accent on Design in New York, and the Los Angeles Gift show in Los Angeles.

A flood of counterfeit items from around 1997 forced us to discontinue the planning and production of clock frames using resin molding. Following this, Lemnos changed its policy to produce distinct products using original techniques and materials such as starting to process and develop wooden or plywood frames for products, including for the Erias series. At a gathering following the 2000 Toyama product design competition award ceremony, Hiroshi Takata met Akira

Yamamoto, who is closely related to Riki Watanabe. Yamamoto gave Takata a proposal to produce a clock designed by Riki Watanabe. Through a strengthening of this close relationship, the signature Lemnos clock, the “RIKI CLOCK”, was born.

World-class Lemnos design (From Toyama to the world)
After attending exhibitions around the world, we entered into business with foreign distributors in the European market, mostly in Germany, and also in North America, Singapore, and Taiwan, among others. We have continued to build our Lemnos brand all over the world.



Riki Clock

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Some of Lemnos Designers



Awatsuji Design

Having been educated at Tama Art University in Japan and the Cranbrook Academy of Art in the US, the two sisters established TTtheir firm Awatsuji Design in 1995; focusing on graphic design in the beginning the creative portfolio now includes also interior items and a series of wallclocks for Lemnos.

Fumiaki Goto

Prior to migrating to Europe he worked for the senior registered architects office, Moriyoshi Naotake Atelier. Then in 2009, he completed a master's course at Design Academy Eindhoven (The Netherlands), worked in Finland and returned to Japan. Since 2010, he has been part of the designers collective "Bril" at the same time as being active as a freelance designer.

Kanaé Tsukamoto

Being educated at The Royal College of Art in London and graduating from there in 1997, Tsukamoto found her preferred materials in glass and porcelain. Besides interior design she also created tableware and lighting.

Kazuya Koike

Having established his own creative style working for big names in the industry, Koike founded his own brand Doogdesign and was awarded multiple prizes in the last 10 years.

nendo (Oki Sato)

1977 Canada born Japanese graduating from Tokyo's Waseda University in 2002 majoring in architecture. Branded as nendo Sato opened his own design offices in Tokyo and 2005 in Milan, becoming recognized as designer, lecturer and entrepreneur.

Noriko Hashida

Starting her creative career at Toto Ltd, Hashida designed interior before establishing her own design office in 2008. She stuck to her roots and is designing interior items for famous Japanese brands such as Okamura, Lemnos and Iwatani.

Riki Watanabe

Icon amongst all Japanese designers Watanabe was looking back on a creative period of almost 75 years. His Lemnos time pieces date back to the early 70's and are outstanding. Watanabe is recognized for his work all over the world. He died in 2013 at the age of 101 years.

Shin Azumi

Born in 1965 Azumi was educated in England and also commenced his professional career in London in 2005. Having received numerous design awards in Europe and Japan, one of his biggest successes was the acquisition of his art by The Victoria and Albert Museum.

Takenobu Igarashi

Takenobu Igarashi is a sculptor and a designer originating from graphic design. His works are highly respected worldwide and can even be found in the MoMA. He is also an emeritus professor at Tama University of Arts in Japan.

Tomoko Azumi

Tomoko Azumi studied architecture at Kyoto City University of Arts (1985-89 BA) and furniture design at the Royal College of Art (1993-95 MA RCA), London.

She opened t.n.a. Design Studio in 2005. Since its start, t.n.a. Design Studio has been an incubator of her new challenges, developing products for clients, as well as supporting her researches.

Yuichi Nara

Tokyo born in 1977, Nara was educated in Japan. Strongly influenced by his time in Murano, Italy and Venice and through his partnership with Federico Traverso when founding their 241 Design Studio. Returned to Japan, Nara established the Noto Design Office.

Yota Kakuda

A student of Shin and Tomoko Azumi in their London design house, before at famous Royal Art College in London by scholarship of Japanese Government, Kakuda worked at MUJI manifesting the simple as design following his principle that his work should make people happy.





WR-0401 L RIKI CLOCK L • design: riki watanabe



WR12-03 RIKI HIBIYA CLOCK L • design: riki watanabe



AZ-0115 EDGE CLOCK L • design: shin azumi, tomoko azumi



TIL16-01 EKI CLOCK • design: takenobu igarashi



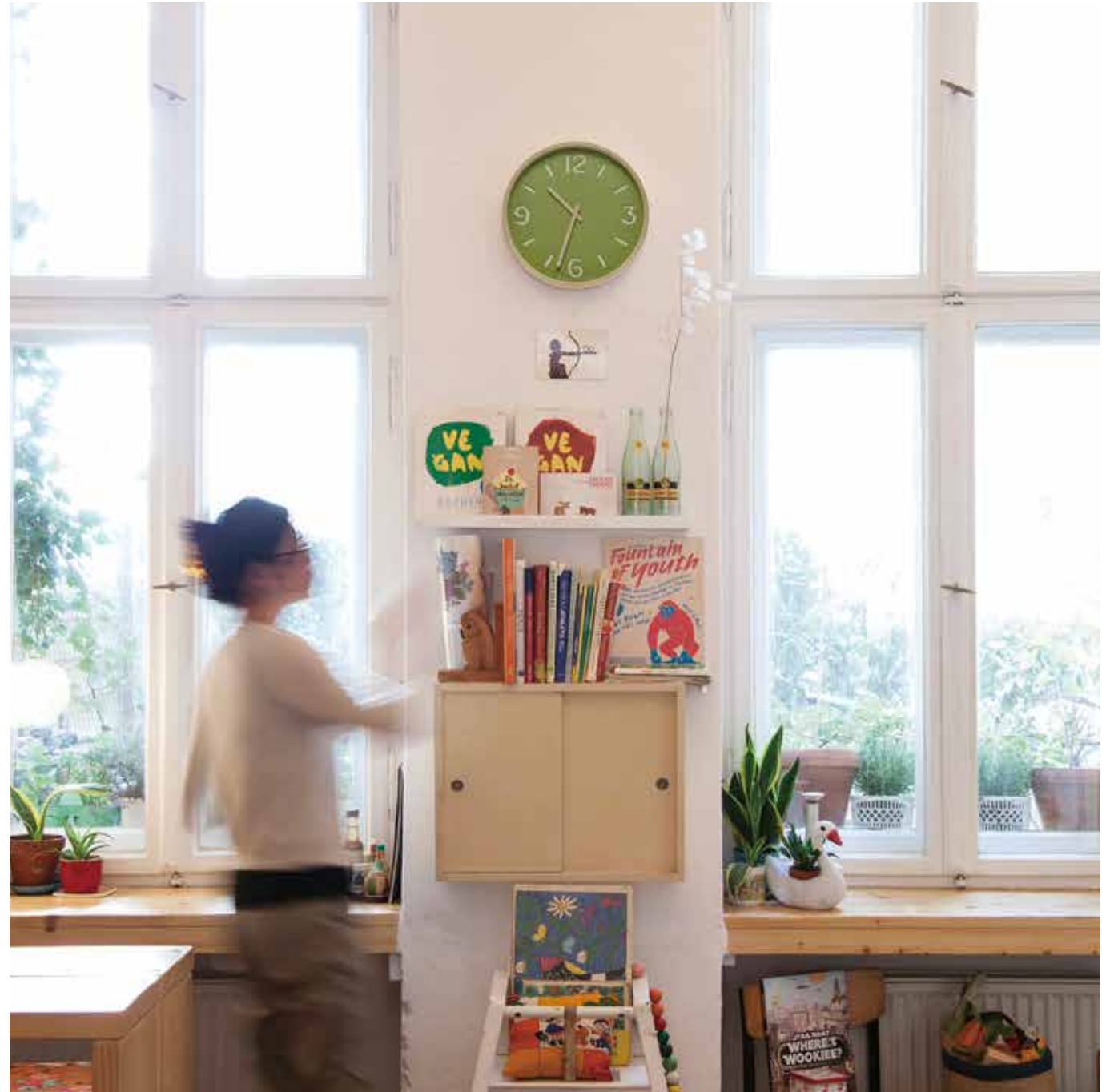
KC03-23 DROPS DRAW THE EXISTANCE • design: kanae tsukamoto



KT18-12 DRAW WALL CLOCK • design: kazuya koike



NY16-12 BIRDHOUSE CLOCK • design: yuichi nara



NY18-15 THOMSON PAPER CLOCK • design: yuichi nara



PC10-24 CAMPAGNE • design: lemmos design group



TIL19-09 EARTH CLOCK LESS • design: takenobu igarashi



NY14-02 KAEDE • design: yuichi nara



YK19-18 CITY POP ALARM • design: yota kakuda



PA18-12 FARBE • design: lemnos design group



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Cover: AWA19-12 AWA CLOCK NOYAMA • design: awatsuji design
Page 2: AZ15-06 QUAIN • design: shin azumi
Page 3: WR17-06 RIKI PUBLIC CLOCK • design: riki watanabe



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