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'Parasite' redefines mass production, making furniture pieces that serve as canvases for self-expression

Text NEERJA KAPADIA Images ILYA KANER



IKEA has long been synonymous with mass-produced convenience, shaping homes with its consistent designs. However, this uniformity often comes at the cost of individuality, leading to homogenised living environments. "Parasite", designed by YET Architecture + BDM Architects, challenges this narrative by transforming IKEA furniture into platforms for resistance and creative subversion. These interventions blur boundaries

between industrial uniformity and personal creativity, encouraging a fresh perspective on the role of furniture in everyday life.

At its core, the collection breathes new life into mass-produced pieces by the integration of 3D-printed attachments onto existing IKEA pieces. Through thoughtful modifications, these objects gain history, character and an ecological consciousness, advocating for sustainability in an era of relentless consumption.



(TOP LEFT) The IKEA LIXHULT cabinet takes on a new identity with the addition of a fluid, oversized 3D-printed form. The intervention disrupts its minimalist structure, transforming it from a simple storage unit into a striking sculptural feature.

(TOP RIGHT AND BOTTOM) IKEA Knarrevik 1.0 is a reimagined bedside table which is enhanced with interesting 3D-printing. The sculptural element merges function with artistry, transforming the mass-produced piece into a one-of-a-kind furniture object.

This reinterpretation of the **IKEA EKET 2.0** system features sculptural 3D-printed legs, elevating it from a simple shelf to a striking bedside table. The bold new base infuses the piece with personality, converting a standard design into a functional yet sculptural statement apt for intimate spaces.



Also part of the collection, this reinvented **IKEA Knarrevik 2.0** bedside table integrates 3D-printed additions, completely redefining its form. The glowing, cloud-like build introduces a soft, organic contrast to the table's rigid geometry, bridging the gap between uniformity and individuality.



By challenging conventional notions of design, embracing creative autonomy and prioritising environmental responsibility, this product line offers a compelling vision for the future of furniture. The collection was showcased at Dutch Design Week 2024 in the Isola Gallery as part of the exhibition Disclosure: Design Studios Unveiled.



The IKEA EKET 1.0 is a captivating shelf system. The organic form not only disrupts the clean lines of the original design but also introduces a more dynamic way to store and display objects. The intervention transforms the shelf into a hybrid between a functional storage unit and an art piece.



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