

# Designing for Circularity

Seminar the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2023



Auditorium 5 + 16  
Philip de Langes Allé 10  
1435 København K

The world faces a number of major challenges. The structural changes of the international economy caused by the globalization and an ever-increasing climate crisis have radically changed the conditions of our society. The consumer culture is facing a fundamental change where we must learn to consume and produce differently and with greater care. The generations after World War II lifted the material prosperity of the many, but future generations must learn to use the resources with respect for the balance of the globe. For everybody.

With the new sustainability agendas, Denmark, and the Nordic countries in general, have a unique opportunity to contribute to the green transition. Our design tradition is based on societal relevance, moderation, and sensible use of materials. Our manufacturing processes are rounded off by a long experience of adapting production methods and optimizing the use of resources in the creation of useful everyday products.

We cannot blindly continue the production of indifferent products but must sharpen the quality and level of consideration when we produce new. This seminar presents points of views on sustainability form practitioners, researchers and people working with certifications and LCA.



# Agenda

Auditorium 5 Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of September

- 9.15 **Claus Mølgaard** is a qualified toolmaker, a civil engineer and is currently working at the Centre for Absolute Sustainability at Technical University of Denmark (DTU). He earned a Ph.d. for his research on “Environmental analysis of plastic waste disposal”. His consultancy aids furniture designers and manufacturers, focusing on technical aspects in furniture development.
- 11.00 **Break**
- 11.15 **Morten Emil Engel** is the Founder of MEE Studio. In his work as an architect, he has a strong focus on materials, aesthetics, and sustainability through low-carbon, natural and bio-based materials. Working holistically, he creates thought-provoking designs by merging concept, materials and lighting.
- 12.00 **Lunch break**
- 13.00 **Aroop Ratan Guha** is a 2022 Strategic Design and Entrepreneurship graduate. He developed the “Circular Furniture Tool” as his thesis project, which is rooted in circular design and certification data and aims to help home furniture brands assess the circularity of their designs and strategies. User inputs generate a numeric assessment, gauging certification potential for their products.
- 14.00 **Sustainability in Practice Session #1:**  
Transforming the Existing  
with Lendager  
  
Focus on sustainability in relation to History. This session will be exploring and discussing the practice around transforming and working with existing conditions, such as buildings. The practice example will showcase a couple of projects anchoring methods and tools in relation to qualifying choices around construction, material use, etc.

Auditorium 16 Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> of September

- 9.15 **Henrik Lorensen** is a founder of and CEO at TAKT. TAKT is a furniture company with the aim to design quality products rooted in circularity and sustainability – not as an afterthought. Likewise, TAKT aims to bring back accessibility in good furniture design – quality products should be available to everyone.
- 10.15 **Jakob Aaen** co-founder of MÅLBAR, a company leading a mission to democratize Life Cycle Screenings within our industry. The company strives to offer easily accessible and valuable insights into the climate impact of products, identifying efficient improvement areas, and spreading knowledge about new and promising materials.
- 11.15 **Jacob Antvorskov** works with circular economy for a Danish municipality. In 2009, he and his family realized that the UN couldn’t agree upon reducing the carbon footprints of nations. Therefore, they made their own household reduction-plan. They have now cut more than half of their emissions. Can you live a modern life with a low CO2-emission? Can you cherry-pick the solutions? Is circular design a solution? Does personal action matter, and is it scalable?
- 12.00 **Lunch break**
- 13.00 **Mette Bak-Andersen** is a designer and researcher dedicated to transforming design paradigms. Barcelona-educated designer (2005) with a Ph.d. in sustainable design and materials from The Royal Danish Academy. For over 14 years she has been driving circular economy and sustainability through design, education, and global research.
- 14.00 **Tour of the Chair Collection** with Nicolai de Gier