Czech Design

Industrial heritage, craftsmanship, engineering and design education as foundations of design in Czech Republic



Ladislav Sutnar, Tea set, 1931, Krásná jizba



Studio Olgoj Chorchoj, Tim, 2015, Bomma

Lada Hubatová-Vacková, UMPRUM
Academy of Architecture, Design and Art in Prague

Industrial Heritage & Design Education (1850–1918)

Industrialized core of Habsburg Empire; museums and design schools; UMPRUM school founded 1885



map of the Habsburg/Austro-Hungarian Empire around 1914



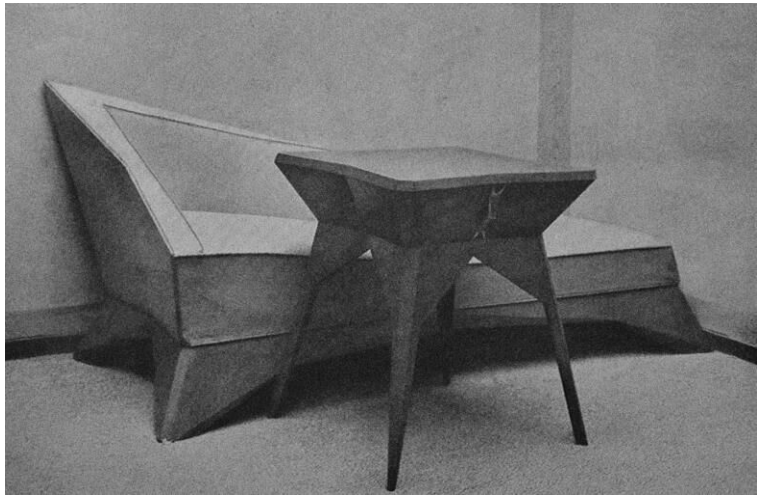


Thonet Company, Chair No. 18, 1876, Bystřice pod Hostýnem





School of Arts and Crafts in Prague, founded 1885, studios around 1905



Vlastislav Hofman, sofa with table, 1911–1912

First Czechoslovak Republic (1918–1938)

Modernisation, functionalism, Baťa, Sutnar, collaboration of industry and designers



map of Czechoslovakia (with Subcarpathian Ruthenia), around 1920





Baťa/Zlín industrial complex; Baťa shoe advertisement, around 1930



Ladislav Sutnar, Tea service for Krásná jizba, 1929-1932, foto Josef Sudek

State Socialism (1948–1989)

Nationalization and support of crafts; Expo 58 success



Czechoslovakia, around 1948



Tatra 603, 1956–1975
Design by František Kardaus; further development by Vladimír Popelář and Josef Chalupa, Zdeněk Kovář, Tatra Company



Eva Fialová, Silver Dress with Czech garnets, designed for Expo 67, Montreal, bobbin lace, 1967

Transformation after „Velvet Revolution“ in 1989

Reintegration into Europe; new studios and brands; Designblok, international visibility







Olgoj Chorchoj, table Carbon 01, 1997, experimental composite – carbon-fibre fabric, glass fibres, polyurethane foam, steel



Bořek Šípek, porcelain and blown glass pieces for Driade, 1990´s

Contemporary Czech Design and Craft



Linda Kaplanová, Handwoven textile, UMPRUM 2020





Alice Klouzková, Blue-print dress, Strážnice traditional workshop – UMPRUM, around 2015



Martin Pondělíček, Hand-embroidered dress, 2021, UMPRUM



Alexander Gufler, Merano Armchair, 2010, solid wood and bent plywood, TON





Lucie Koldová – Dan Yeffet, Muffins Lamp, 2010, handblown glass, Brokis
Jan Plecháč, Abyss vase, 2023, hand blown, and cut crystal, Moser (right)

Czech Republic: Selected Cultural & Design Events 2027

•**Zlín Design Week** | 6–12 May | Zlín
A multidisciplinary festival of contemporary design, fashion, exhibitions and emerging creative talent.

•**Open House Prague** | 17–23 May | Prague
An architecture festival opening normally inaccessible buildings and exploring the city's architectural heritage.

•**Open House Brno** | 21–23 May | Brno
A festival offering public access to significant buildings and showcasing the city's architectural and industrial heritage.

•**Prague Quadrennial** | 8–17 June | Prague
An international event dedicated to scenography, performance design and theatre space.

•**Czech Design Week** | 9–12 September | Prague
A contemporary design festival presenting independent designers, product design, jewellery and visual arts.

•**Designblok** | 6–10 October | Prague
A major international showcase of contemporary product design, furniture, fashion and applied arts.

•**Meat Design Ostrava** | Date TBC | Ostrava
A festival connecting contemporary design, furniture, architecture and creative industries.

•**Dyzajn market** | Dates TBC | Prague
A market for independent design, handmade objects, fashion, jewellery and applied arts.

•**LUSTR** | Dates TBC | Prague
An international festival of contemporary illustration and comics, showcasing emerging artists, visual storytelling and experimental approaches to illustration.