

**the
pepper & salt
project**

**nendo / muller van
severen / maarten
baas / knutson +
ballouhey / studio
wieki somers**

valerie^{objects}





valerie^{objects}

valerie_objects is an Antwerp-based design label initiated by Axel Van Den Bossche and art director Veerle Wenes, combining their professional and personal tastes for all things good and beautiful.

By allowing designers, architects and artists to translate their signature style into tangible objects, **valerie_objects** has become a unique collection of everyday items with out-of-the-box aesthetics. These are objects people truly get entangled with.

**authentic
thinking
and creative
minds
are at the heart
of the label**

maarten baas



Maarten Baas is considered to be one of the most influential Dutch contemporary designers. He is often described as an “author designer,” of which his works lie on the boundaries between art and design. His work is known as rebellious, playful, intellectual, theatrical and artistic. Baas’ designs contain a huge amount of spontaneity and naivety. he translates the human touch into a mechanically produced design objects. “In a quick sketch, beauty is often found”, he says. “But those spontaneous lines are often lost in an industrial process.” And so, Baas adds organic forms and wobbly lines to an otherwise very straight-lined design world. His work has been collected by leading museums such as MoMa (New York), Victoria and Albert Museum (London), Les Arts Décoratifs (Paris), Stedelijk Museum and Rijksmuseum (Amsterdam) and other prestigious galleries worldwide.

—
photo by JJ Schlingemann

muller van severen



Muller Van Severen consists of the Belgian couple Fien Muller and Hannes Van Severen. Since 2011 they work together to create highly stylized objects that appear to be produced with total effortlessness. With both Fien Muller and Hannes Van Severen being artists, it’s natural that the collection sits somewhere between design and art. The design practice has been on an inspired quest for sculpturally interesting furniture objects, without losing track of its functionality.

It looks as if the designers draw with crayons in space. “We create furniture with a certain lightness so the background becomes part of the image”, they say. After winning countless awards and collaborating with prestigious museum and galleries worldwide, Muller Van Severen is considered one of the most image-defining European design teams of today.

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photo by Mirjam De vriendt

nendo



Nendo is the alias of Japanese designer Oki Sato (1977). From 2002 on, he has grown into being one of the most famous designers of the world today. He won countless awards from magazines and institutions such as Dezeen, Wallpaper and Maison & Objet and his work has been collected by Museum of Modern Art (New York), Musée des Arts Décoratifs (Paris), Victoria and Albert Museum (London) and many others. Sato is known to work at four hundred projects at the same time and creates poetic minimalist objects with a humorous twist, often consisting of nothing more than the contours. ‘I see outlines everywhere’.

knutson + ballouhey



Sigve Knutson (1991) is a young and promising designer from Oslo who graduated in 2016. Instead of following the path of Scandinavian design, which is grounded on a strong heritage of craftsmanship, he allows his intuition to run freely during the design process. Hence, Knutson’s objects appear as materialized sketches and are made from experimental substances such as wood clay. ‘I would say that there is a very humane and perhaps even primitive side to my work’. Knutson is represented by Carwan Gallery (Beirut) and has already exhibited in Milan, Oslo, Beirut, New York, Eindhoven and Paris.

—
photo by Marwan Harmouche



Thomas Ballouhey (1990) is a fresh-off-the-boat French designer who graduated in 2016 in Eindhoven where he now lives and works. In his quest for a way to create design as spontaneous as possible, he constructed a modified sandblaster. ‘With this instrument I’m able to spray a solidifying coat over my constructions, which gives me the freedom to use whatever (scrape) materials I want’.

—
photo by Marcel de Buck

studio wieki somers



Studio Wieki Somers is a Dutch design office formed in 2003 by Wieki Somers (1976) and Dylan van den Berg (1971). Playfulness and wonderment are vastly present in all the objects of their extensive oeuvre. ‘We take notice of all the things around us, look at what they can and what people do with them; subsequently, we unleash our fantasy upon them’. The studio’s work has been collected by the Museum of Modern Art (New York), Centre Pompidou (Paris), Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen.

—
photo by Elspeth Diederix

**_there are so many
small '!' moments
hidden in our
everyday life'._nendo**

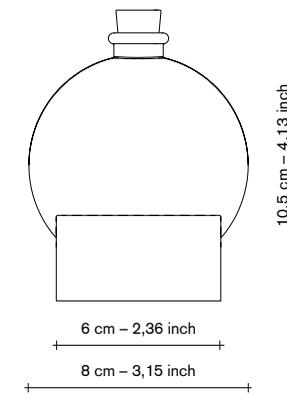
valerie_objects_pepper & salt



pepper & salt
by

nendo

— bottle of spices



valerie_objects_pepper & salt

Although Nendo is known to work on four hundred projects at the same time, this is actually his very first pepper and salt shaker. As always, the Japanese designer aimed to add a humorous twist to the design and with this object it is no different. The

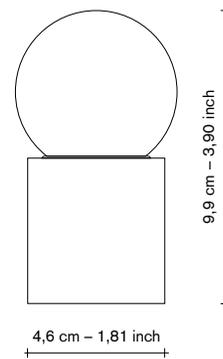
pepper and salt shakers are actually round glass bottles with a ribbed bottom placed on a glass holder. The intention is to pick up the bottle, pour some spice into the holder, grind it with the ribbed bottom of the bottle and then pour the squashed pepper

or salt on your meal. In other words, using the pepper or the salt becomes an almost absurd act of play. The object is transparent, a key element of Nendo's work. He wants you to look at your pepper like raindrops through a frosted window.

pepper & salt
by

muller van severen

— shiny table sculptures



With these pepper and salt mills Muller Van Severen once again shows that everyday tools don't have to be purely functional nor seemingly invisible. The design duo reinterpreted the classic mill by reshaping the two basic parts of it — the head and the cylinder — into two perfectly geometrical forms: a sphere and a cube. Notice that the classic proportions of the parts are altered: the sphere and the cube are of equal length (5cm). As a result of this small intervention the mill appears to be a sculpture rather than a functional tool. The sculptural quality is further accentuated by the shiny nickel plated finishing of the sphere. To add their typical playful touch, Muller Van Severen chose two soft colors for the ABS resin cube, Whisper White and Yellow Orange. Apart from being beautiful objects, these mills function like every other.



**_by giving
everyday tools
a sculptural
aesthetic, they
don't end up
being tucked
away in the
drawer.** — muller
van severen



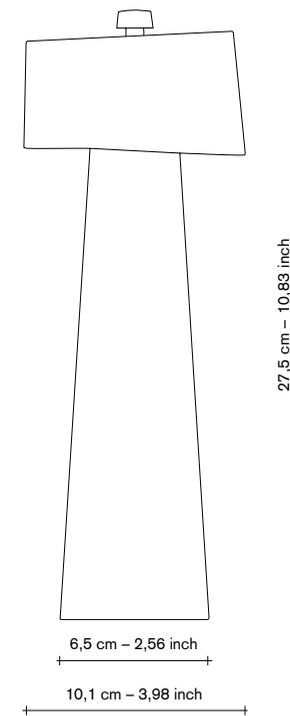
_a perfectly functional mill that looks like it has been tinkered by granddad in his barn. — maarten baas



pepper & salt
by

maarten baas

— tools from the barn

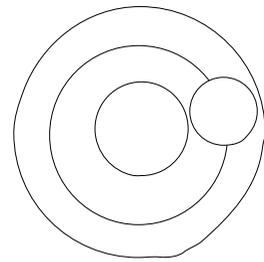


Few designers have such a recognizable signature style as Maarten Baas. You can practically guess that this slightly crooked pepper mill was conceived by him just by glancing at it. Baas started off from the archetypical pepper mill which consists of a cylinder and a round head on top of it. In stead of streamlining these two parts into a unified whole, he materialized a sketchy drawing of a mill. Baas actually designed a perfectly functional tool made from ABS resin that looks like it has been hammered by granddad in his barn. This contrast, industrial versus hand-made, makes out the core of Baas' work. If you look close, you'll notice that there's not one straight line to this mill. Even the length of the cylinder curves just a bit. This is a piece of meticulously designed imperfection.

pepper & salt
by

knutson + ballouhey

— rock the pepper, roll the salt



11,8 cm – 4,65 inch diameter



The two youngest designers of the valerie_objects team Sigve Knutson and Thomas Ballouhey both graduated from the experimental Design Academy in Eindhoven and are part of a new generation that looks at design in a different way. They put craftsmanship

aside and go back to the very origin of design, when man made tools spontaneously without any specific technical background. Their objects combine minimalism with the aesthetics of the Stone Age, such as is the case with this rough-shaped grinder consisting of a

grinding ball that rolls in a preconceived circular trench. While the grinder looks like it's been beaten out of solid rock it is actually made of cast iron protected by diazotization against corrosion. It is thus also a modern tool. And a very humane one. There's no mechanics to it.

**_grind your
pepper like
they did in
the Stone Age.
probably.** — knutson +
ballouhey



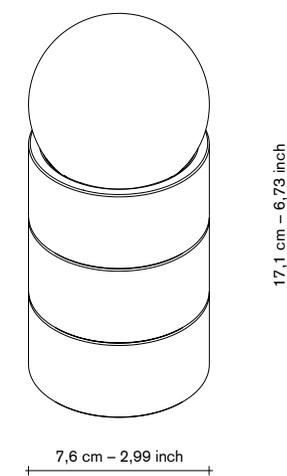
**_a tool
with a
sense of
wonderment.** — studio
wieki somers



pepper & salt
by

studio wieki somers

— temple of pepper and salt



With every design, Studio Wieki Somers manages to reinterpret daily tools into objects that evoke a sense of wonderment. That is exactly the case with this pepper and salt grinder. Somers exchanged the typical mechanics of a mill with a simple but genius grinding system consisting of a convex and a concave piece that fit perfectly into each other in order to be able to grind pepper and salt with an almost mechanical ease. Both parts contain hidden embossed surface treatments to make the grinding even more easy. The mechanical simplicity of Somers' design is emphasized by the minimalist aesthetics of it. The grinder consists of the three sober but striking marble cylinders and a marble sphere which can be stacked as a beautiful 17cm tall totem. One of the marble cylinders contains a handy pepper/salt reservoir that can be shut with a marble cap.



pepper & salt
by nendo



pepper & salt —

material:

- bottle made of handblown glass
- bottle holder made of pressed glass
- cork cap

colour options:

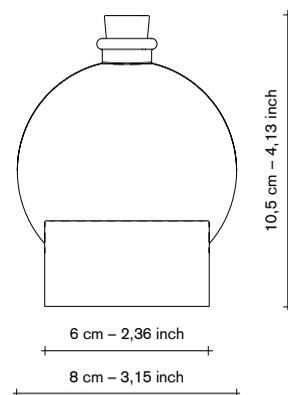
- transparent frosted
- sepia frosted

usage:

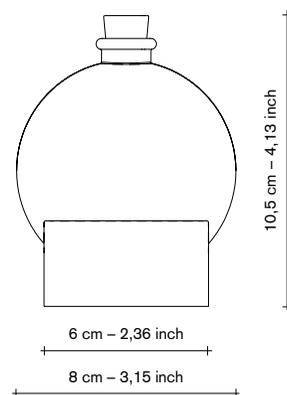
- preserve the pepper and the salt in the bottle
- pour pepper or salt into the holder and grind it with the ribbed bottom of the bottle

dishwasher friendly

packed in a beautiful giftbox



transparent
frosted
V8018009



sepia
frosted
V8018010

pepper & salt
by muller van severen



pepper & salt —

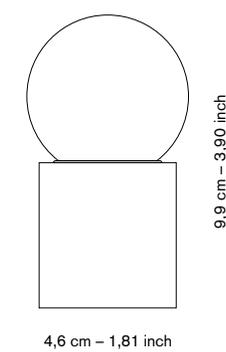
material:

- cube (base) in ABS matt
- sphere (top) in nickel plated stainless steel
- pepper mill (yellow-orange) equipped with carbon steel grinding mechanism
- salt mill (whisper white) equipped with a ceramic grinding mechanism

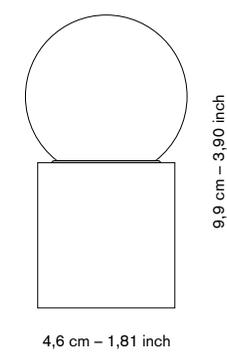
use:

- pull the top off for easy refilling
- adjust the size of the grain by turning the little knob at the bottom of the base clockwise for a finer grain, and counterclockwise for a coarser grain

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salt
V8018002



pepper
V8018001

pepper & salt
by maarten baas

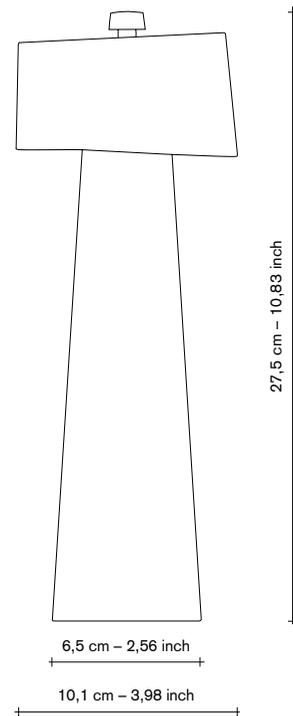


pepper —

material:
— ABS matt black
— carbon steel grinding mechanism for pepper

use:
— adjust the size of the grain by turning the knob of the mill
— turn clockwise for a finer grain and counterclockwise for a coarser grain
— turn the knob of the mill counterclockwise for easy refilling

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V8018008

pepper & salt
knutson + ballouhey



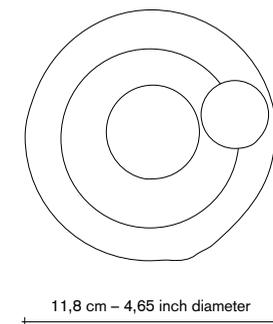
pepper & salt —

material:
— bowl made of cast iron
— 2 balls made of cast iron
— anti-corrosion protection by diazotization

usage:
pour a small amount of salt or pepper in the circular trench of the bowl. Roll the ball over with your hand in circular motions

hand-wash only

packed in a beautiful giftbox



V8018003

pepper & salt
by studio wieki somers



pepper & salt —

material:

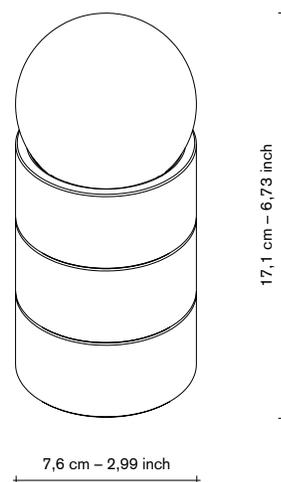
— marble: white Carrara / black Carrara
— marble cap on container

usage:

—pepper can be preserved in the black container, salt can be preserved in the white container.
—lift the top off, pour a small amount of pepper or salt in the grinder, put the top back on and apply a circular motion to the top

hand-wash only

packed in a beautiful giftbox



V8018011

contact

Veldkant 21
2550 Kontich — Belgium

T +32 3 458 05 82
F +32 3 458 05 84
info@valerie-objects.com

_general manager
Stephanie Rosseel
stephanie@valerie-objects.com
+32 499.40.18.74

—
press@valerie-objects.com

—
_art direction
Veerle Wenes

_product development
Jan Aerts

—
product sheets available
www.valerie-objects.com

_photography

Martina Björn studio

_graphic design
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_furniture

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n°1/2/3/4
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