

brownbook



*Ezequiel
Death, Women and Beauty*

LIFESTYLE | DESIGN | TRAVEL | AGENDA
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MARLOESTENBHÖMER™

New Definitions of Beauty

By designing objects that ignore or criticise conventions, one can liberate design and make the product world less generic. Marloes introduces forms, a wide variety of materials and ways of construction in her work, which are mostly used in other design fields, in order to break down preconceptions we have about shoes and other fashion accessories. The shoes she makes escape their archetypal form and function, but they still communicate what they are.

Marloes ten Bhömer is building a total vision of foot related objects and concepts, incorporating one-off handmade and manufactured shoes, photographs furniture pieces and other fashion accessories. In her work the overall vision is most important.

Marloes believes that specific shoes make you feel differently and is therefore interested in creating new shoe typologies for people that live nowadays. Marloes also believes that the way to move forward in shoe design lies in introducing new techniques and different unconventional materials.





Mouldedleathershoe, 2003

Materials; Vegetable tanned leather, carbon fibre
Vegetable tanned leather has been formed on a variety of shoe lasts. Sections are cut and assembled to create a fractured shoe. Even though its form is distorted, one can still recover its shoe last foundation.



Redmâchéshoe, 2003

Materials; laser cut stainless steel, leather
In order to design and make comfortable shoes that have a different silhouette form than the form of a foot, I invented a leather-mâché technique. This technique made it possible to vary the thickness of the shoe at certain parts. In this shoe the leather-mâché technique is used with big sheets of leather, to make the form of the shoe very abstract. All the details like the toe and the heel come from the way of constructing this shoe. The heel for example is just another (reinforced) sheet of leather. Even though these shoes are made in red I certainly hope they will not make you feel like Dorothy.

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About Marloes:

Born in Duiven, the Netherlands, Marloes ten Bhömer studied product design at the Higher School of Arts Arnhem before receiving an MA in design at the Royal College of Art in London. Marloes currently focuses on innovating footwear. Her cutting edge, distinct shoe designs offer an alternative to existing design languages and typologies. They have a design language that is built on clean lines, materials, and construction techniques that are closer to design and architecture than women's fashion. They allow women the incredibly rare chance of freedom from conventional style clichés and codes, because they do not conform to the existing codes. Her work has been exhibited in London, Tokyo, Germany, the Netherlands, Zimbabwe, Melbourne and Washington and has been published internationally. She is currently setting up her independent shoe label called MARLOESTENBHÖMER™.