

A close-up photograph of a carpet. The carpet has a complex pattern with a large yellow section on the left and a blue section on the right. A dark, shadowed hand is visible in the lower-left corner, reaching towards the carpet. The text "POINT OF CONTACT" is overlaid in white, serif, all-caps font in the center.

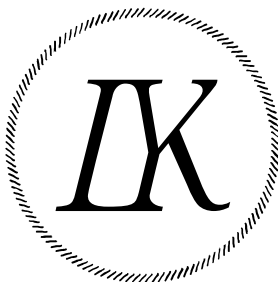
# POINT OF CONTACT

LYK CARPET



# POINT OF CONTACT

LYK CARPET  
by  
Mareike Lienau



celebrating 15 years of Lyk Carpet's limited edition & bespoke objects



## Mareike Lienau, in pursuit of new paths ...

Textiles are among humankind's oldest cultural achievements. Over 30,000-year-old dyed and spun flax fibers were discovered in the Republic of Georgia. Carpets have existed for around 10,000 years. Initially felted, they were later woven and knotted artistically, particularly in the Orient. Carpets can be found in Bedouin tents, aristocratic residences and the homes of ordinary citizens. Much like paintings, they tell stories of historical events, for example, the conquest of England by the Normans as depicted in the 11<sup>th</sup>-century Bayeux tapestry. Myths and fairy tales are woven into carpets and Gobelin tapestries, where these artifacts symbolize power and wealth, artistry, sense of style and the culture of home living. Carpets can convey the illusion of blooming gardens or reveal geometric and abstract images. Above all, they provide comfort and warmth.

At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, artists, such as Gustav Klimt, August Macke and Franz Marc, designed textiles to interconnect art and daily life. Carpets and textiles designed by Anni Albers, Gunda Stölzel and others in the Bauhaus textile workshop are closely associated with women's emancipation in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and rank among the most renowned pieces.

Things had been quiet on the artisanal carpet front for quite some time at the end of the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, when Mareike Lienau decided to design unique rugs and to have them knotted in accordance with the highest standards. Memories of the Bauhaus's sophisticated textile art had long faded. In particular, younger generations kept the floorboards in their homes bare. This situation has since changed radically. Today, craft is trending at Milan's most important furniture fair. In retrospect, Lienau's innovative handcrafted carpets and objects in contemporary colors and creative shapes were pioneers of their times.

The designer has pursued new paths with regard to humane forms of production. Born in Düsseldorf in 1976, Lienau studied industrial design at the University of the Arts in Berlin. Since founding her label, Lyk Carpet, in 2009, she has worked closely with manufacturers in Nepal to materialize her unique designs. Shared respect for nature and compliance with strict environmental standards, complemented by social responsibility and fair wages, form the foundation of this collaboration.

Cooperation with people in a developing nation, along with the exchange of ideas between East and West, furthers international understanding and helps to preserve craft traditions while promoting human dignity for artisans. This forward-looking approach to collaboration prioritizes everyone along the entire supply chain, including the end users, rather than the pursuit of material profits. Lienau invites her customers to participate in this process. The stories that emerge contribute toward a more humane world.

**Reinhold Ludwig,**  
Publisher / Editor-in-Chief  
ART AUREA Art&Crafts Magazin  
Ulm, Germany







## edition 25

Strong abstract, sculptural expression, extraordinary design  
– edition 25 comprises several families of limited edition objects manufactured only 25 times each. Mareike Lienau personally numbers and signs each exclusive pouf and carpet object's label by hand.

Traditional knotting techniques and the highest quality 100% Tibetan highland wool are used for their creation. The hand-spun wool is sheared from living sheep. These manual production processes harness traditional plant dyes and pot-dying techniques, yielding unique results. Thus, the final objects reveal slight variations in size and tone.

Edition 25 is hand-knotted using an average of 80 to 100 knots per square inch. The objects are made in Nepal and certified by Label STEP.

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All edition 25 objects are customizable upon request. To inquire about different colors, shapes and sizes, please contact Mareike Lienau.





## Medley

the language of geometry meets wool

Medley is an exciting potpourri of Lyk Carpet's textile Posters and very first pouf family – hence the name, Medley. Traditional and present-day influences converge to create fresh and striking contrasts. The colorful and playful objects stem from Mareike Lienau's exploratory process of depicting graphic elements through a variety of knotting techniques. She is continuously developing these further to create ever-new compositions.

For Medley, Lienau experiments with the effects of structure, texture, facture and color in space – as a wall object or floor object, upright or horizontal. Ultimately, her aim is to strike up dialogues between interiors, their inhabitants and the surrounding architecture. All Medley objects are made of 100% hand-spun Tibetan highland wool shorn from living sheep. The resulting pieces emanate an aesthetic warmth and reduce unwanted reverberation indoors.









## Pouf\_Charactere

sculptural seating objects — a striking presence in any room

In 2018 Mareike Lienau launched what have since emerged as three extravagant and sophisticated families. The first comprises Massimiliano, Fred and Colette. In 2022 Cuno, Hilma and Sybille followed suit. The third family began to materialize in 2024 with the launch of Kailani at Milan Design Week. Lienau plans to complete this family with two further objects before the end of the year.







**Pouf\_Charactere**  
Fred at Alhambra Berlin & Colette

edition 25











## little Sister

an interplay of structure, texture, facture

edition 25

Following in the footsteps of big brother Medley, little Sister emerged from Mareike Lienau's deeper experimentation with different colors, shapes, techniques, effects and modes of expression. From oval to arched or free-formed, the resulting wall carpet objects reveal a poetic interplay between the aforementioned elements. Admiring little Sister from up close or afar, the viewer finds themselves challenging their own perception as they seek to distinguish the individual layers, almost tricking the eyes into thinking they blend into each other seamlessly. The tapestry can serve as an alluring backdrop or bold centerpiece for any space or room.







## exhibitions

From INTRANSITIV to ICH und DU, Gallery Weekends in Berlin, Vienna and Paris to Venice Design Biennale — over the past 15 years, Mareike Lienau has participated in more than 25 exhibitions, design festivals and trade fairs across Europe with Lyk Carpet.

Lienau creates conceptual work for clients, using her extensive manufacturing experience to materialize concepts via collaborative processes with artisans. Her design expertise and empathetic approach allow her to create unseen objects that transcend traditional ways of thinking. The following pages present a small selection of her design label's showcases, both nationally and internationally.

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All Lyk Carpet's objects are bespoke. If you are interested in commissioning Mareike Lienau to develop or translate an exhibition theme into an object or concept, please get in touch.





## INTRANSITIV

exhibition . INTRANSITIV, Berlin Gallery Weekend 2020

solo exhibition by Mareike Lienau

client . gallerygood

The word “intransitive” (Latin for “not aiming, not passing over”) describes the creative process in which our habitual perception of objects is shifted. An added value is to be (re) experienced – by looking at and experiencing the shapes, colors and materials of the objects, new insights are generated, perspectives revealed and senses exchanged.

This solo exhibition comprised three ensembles –  
Come as you are and stay Together,  
freePlay\_modular Rug and You are Unique

### Come as you are and stay Together

Come as you are and stay Together is a three-part seating bench ensemble, upholstered in collaboration with the Unique Factory in Schöneberg, Berlin, as a collectable piece. The ensemble is characterized by the interplay and contrast between carpets and handmade tiles from the brand GOLEM. The high-quality tiles and carpets are perceived and experienced in new and unseen ways. Thus, the user engages with the seating objects’ materials and production processes, connecting with the cultural history woven into their threads. The seats can be used individually or positioned together to form a combined bench. The stark contrast between the different surfaces’ materials blend into one another seamlessly. This is intended to sharpen the awareness of the unseen. All the materials are handcrafted.

### freePlay\_modular Rug

The freePlay\_modular Rug ensemble features wall and floor objects that can be arranged independently from one another or as a set in the form of a complete composition. The main bodies, Soumak, Dari and Panama, are handwoven using the flatweave technique. The fringed, high-pile bodies add accents and can be attached to each other upon request. The existing image of the carpet thus becomes modular.

### You are Unique

The one-of-a-kind GOLEM vase tiles in the You are Unique ensemble tell their own manufacturing process story. The vases are made from scrap. Scratched, torn and crumpled, Mareike Lienau gives them a unique second life.





















## BALANCING ACTS, 2021

exhibition . design & concept Frederike Delius & Mareike Lienau  
curation . Anna Carnick & Wava Carpenter – Anava Projects

exhibitions

Mareike Lienau co-founded the Berlin-based, all-female design collective MATTER of COURSE in 2021. The collective marked its first-ever public debut with the pop-up exhibition BALANCING ACTS, celebrating the value of collaboration and finding balance in contemporary life.

Conceived as six vignettes, each playful installation features stacked, suspended and juxtaposed works by the collective's 11 designers. The furniture, lighting, textiles, carpets and accessories are composed in unison to express the values that drew these diverse creatives together in the first place – strength, poetry and joy in collaboration, offering a support structure to share ideas, struggles and experiences.

The exhibition also serves as a reflection of the designers' commitment to finding balance. The designers are all guided by a deep respect for the ecological and social environment, each presenting strong, individual points of view while honoring the delicate and courageous act of coming together.









## ICH und DU

exhibition . ICH und DU, Milan Design Week, 2022

curation . Anna Carnick & Wava Carpenter – Anava Projects

supported by Dr. Hauschka

For Milan Design Week 2022, MATTER of COURSE marked its international debut with the group exhibition ICH und DU. The curatorial duo Anava Projects conceived a special thematic concept for the event, inviting the collective's eleven designers to create work reflecting the relationship between the self and others. The resulting exhibition, ICH und DU, is presented as part of 5VIE Design Week, and supported by pioneering natural cosmetic brand Dr. Hauschka.

ICH und DU features objects handcrafted in glass, wood, clay, textiles and metal, presented in a series of unexpected vignettes that encourage us to consider the art – and power – of interaction, both with our fellow humans and the natural world. Mareike Lienau designed three objects specifically for this exhibition – Ryoan-ji, Point of Contact and freePlay\_Objects.

### Point of Contact

The spiral is a universal symbol of life, movement and change. Mareike Lienau's Point of Contact embodies this shape as a reflection of the interconnectedness of beings. Our encounters, be they lengthy or momentary, impact us deeply. Whether we walk long distances side-by-side or simply enjoy a fleeting moment together, our contact with one another affects our perspectives, thoughts and feelings. We are linked. As these spirals intertwine, as our impact on one another grows, the bonds between us become stronger, and we leave imprints on each other's worldviews.

### freePlay\_Objects

Mareike Lienau works with geometric figures that relate to each other. Her freePlay\_Objects evoke three shapes taken from her freePlay\_modular Rug series, transformed into three-dimensional seating objects. She explores the effect of juxtaposed structure, texture, facture and color in space. The objects come into contact with the viewer and one another, thereby arousing emotions, creating contrasts, and breaking or merging with their surroundings. The backrest is fully adjustable into a horizontal position, and the desired back position can be adjusted in steps.







## Ryoan-ji

Inspired by the Japanese Zen temple Ryoan-ji, Mareike Lienau designed this wool object to pay homage to the temple rock garden's concept and scale. It hones in on the notion of a "blind spot" — the viewer is invited to reflect on how impactful and ever-present blind spots are in any interaction or endeavor. The design's circular element, a woolen nest, symbolizes this blind spot while offering a space to sit and contemplate. The graphic lines evoke the rock garden area. They remind us to reconsider the seen and unseen, given the respective time, location and culture we find ourselves in at any given moment.







## Animism

exhibition . Animism, Milan Design Week, 2024

curation . Clausen, M.

location . Alcova, Villa Bagatti, Milan, Italy

“Animism” invites viewers to reconsider their interaction with the world of design. It advocates for a perspective shift towards seeing objects not as inanimate items but as entities with whom we share a relationship, marked by mutual respect and understanding. This shift is not only philosophical but practical, encouraging more sustainable and empathetic approaches to the material world.

The following objects were curated by Martin Clausen for the exhibition: Kailani, feelAmbiguity, Ryoan-ji.

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Clausen, M. (2024, April 18). Adorno presents ANIMISM: Alcova Milano 2024 | ADORNO DESIGN. ADORNO DESIGN. Extract retrieved from: <https://adorno.design/shows/animism>







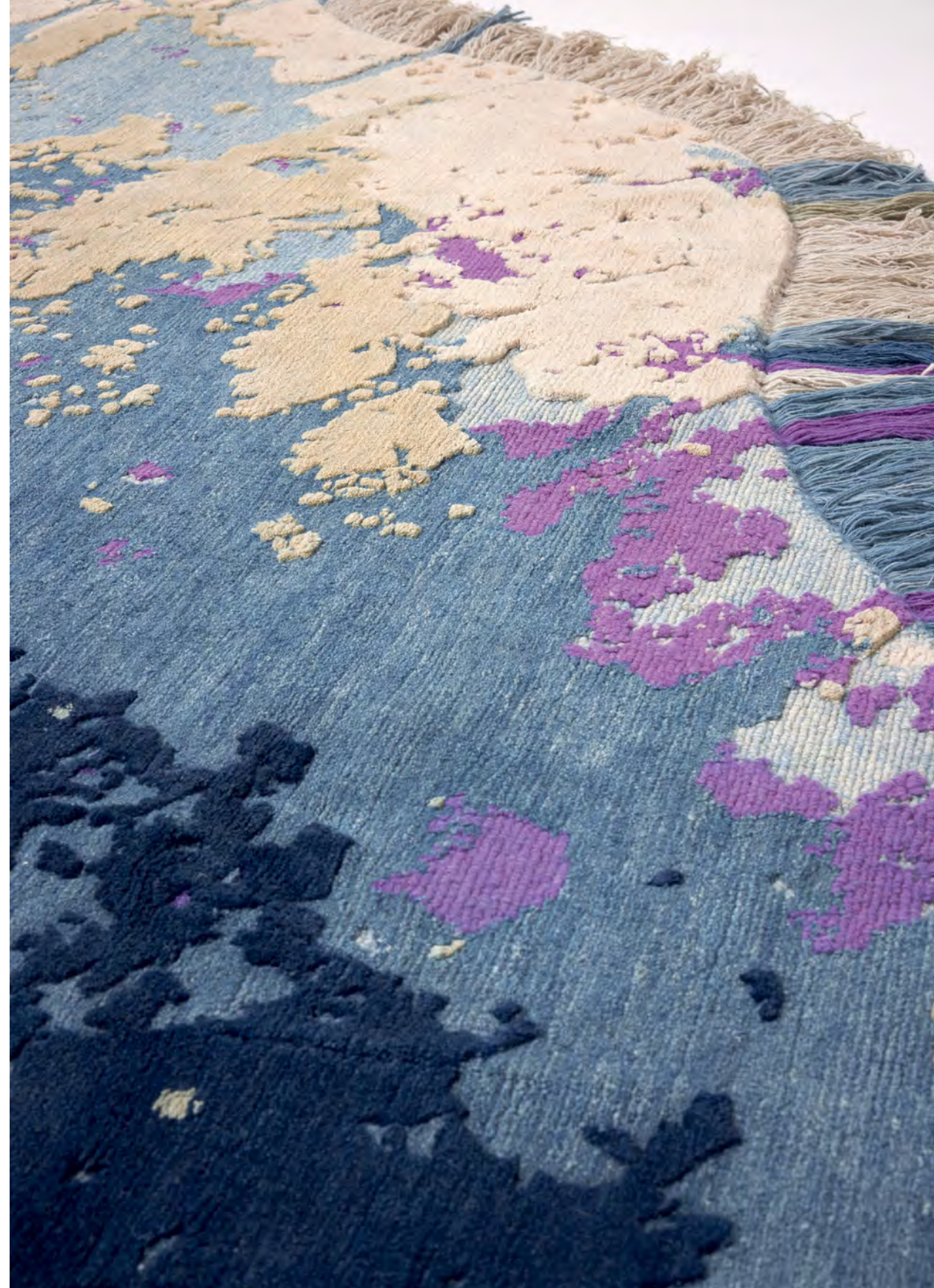
## bespoke

The design of bespoke objects forms the basis of Mareike Lienau's work as a conceptual designer. She creates concepts and presents designs that establish relationships between objects, architecture, occupants and viewers in close collaboration with gallery owners, architects, interior designers and private clients. She designed and produced the selection of objects presented on the following pages for various brands, companies and private clients.

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Searching for a value-creating object for your curated event or exhibition? Looking for a sculptural statement piece that tells a personal story for your home? Yearning to adorn your workspace with avant-garde craftsmanship?

Mareike Lienau is always open to designing bespoke and collectible objects. To discuss concept and object collaborations and commissions, please get in touch.





**la Mer**

the depths of the sea, the vastness of the universe

In a world of constant change and challenges, many long for peace and security. The universe, viewed in its entirety, encompasses both the infinite realms of outer space and the mysterious depths of our seas. La Mer is a collaborative fusion between Lyk Carpet and Berlin-based designer Danielle Gringmuth. The convergence of Lyk Carpet's hand-crafted rug-making techniques and Gringmuth's matrix and illustration emerged as a harmonious whole, emanating a sense of calm. The gentle waves spill over in myriad shades of blue. Like the sea breaking on the shore, the colors flow harmoniously into one another, evoking a sandbank. Radiating beauty and calm, la Mer adorns the room like an asymmetrical island.







**Homage to Berlin**  
private residence  
client . coordination-berlin

bespoke



next page:  
**36qm Object**  
industrial building converted into a living space









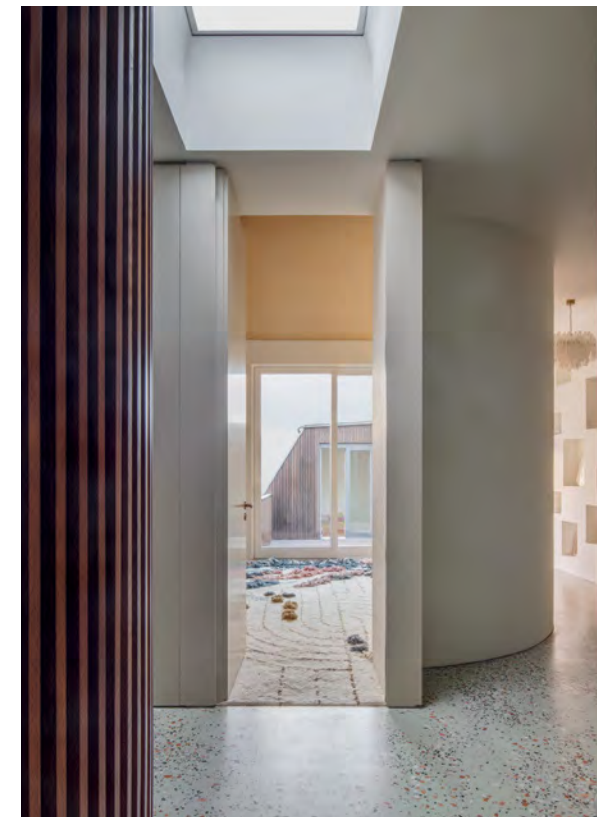
## Oannes

figurative mythology

bespoke

For the design of this carpet, Mareike Lienau was inspired by an expressionist painting of the Greek sun god Oannes, to whom the couple have a special connection. Half fish, half man, he appears on land in the morning and returns to the sea in the evening. Lienau harnessed an organic design language for the object's western side, representing the deep sea and thus Oannes' home. In contrast, the eastern side embodies science. Where the two merge, a blind spot is formed – a place of meditation, detachment, peace and consciousness. The bed is positioned in proximity to this point of union.

The resulting floor object was made from 100% hand-spun Tibetan highland wool. The wool was plant-dyed, pot-dyed and hand-knotted using traditional Tibetan knotting techniques adapted to the room's circular shape. The object is fairtrade certified by Label STEP.





Lyk Carpets transformed leading IT company adesso's Berlin office in collaboration with raumkontor / Innenarchitektur, a transdisciplinary team of interior designers, architects, scenographers and media designers. The concept was inspired by the metropolis's iconic laid-back and artistic spirit. Lyk Carpet contributed two custom-made backrests and corresponding rugs, nine Pouf\_Characteres, four textile Posters and nine seat cushions.









## series

Mareike Lienau is continuously working to develop her existing series further while designing new series along the way. She also ventures into deeper exploration of individual objects from within these series for specific projects.

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Lienau designs bespoke adaptations of both series and individual objects for specific projects, spaces or exhibitions upon request.







## textile Poster

texture, facture and structure studies — fabrics in a room

After its founding in 1919, Bauhaus attracted many women to Weimar as a beacon of hope for equal rights in the creative professions. But even here, they remained repressed — their activities were largely limited to the weaving workshop and received little attention.

The textile Poster wall tapestry family is a tribute to the forgotten women of the Bauhaus movement — in 2017, Mareike Lienau utilized excerpts from unpublished graphic sketches by largely unknown women from the Bauhaus school's textile department for textile Posters #1–8 (DIN A1). The process designer playfully reinterprets details from the drawings in her own style to create expressive graphic compositions in the form of knotted objects. In doing so, Lienau shines a spotlight on the creative contributions and achievements of the women whose work has remained largely underrepresented.

textile Posters #9–11 emerged as reincarnations of textile Posters #1–#8 resulting from further texture, facture and structure studies that took on a life of their own to create new designs. They are produced in DIN A0, thus significantly larger than previous series which measured DIN A1.

Unlike their predecessors, textile Posters #12, #13 and #14 are hand-woven, not hand-knotted, resulting in a different texture. Accents are created using the shaggy technique. These three hand-woven textile Posters add even more variety to the series — conceptualized as wall carpets, they can also be used as regular floor rugs.

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Bespoke textile Posters are available upon request and can be created taking personal space, size and color preferences into account. Lienau also designs bespoke objects, such as character poufs, based on her textile Poster designs.







**feel.Ambiguity**  
co-creation is an emotional bridge

feel.Ambiguity is a family of three stools designed by Mareike Lienau in collaboration with Nepal Knotcraft. All three feel.Ambiguity stools are available in five different colors. Each of the stools invites viewers to explore the concept of “ambiguity” by telling a unique story through its design, materials and applied techniques. This process is deliberately encouraged through craftsmanship and collaboration, both of which evoke emotions and spin a global and connected narrative.







## Coastline #1

where land meets sea

series

With her Coastline series, Mareike Lienau designs wall objects and floor objects that interpret her customers' favorite stretch of land and sea, with a particular focus on the unique expression of the specific body of water serving as inspiration. The hand-knotted objects embody deep longings for idyllic coastal regions. Lienau strives to bridge collective, pan-cultural memories by transforming coastal regions into sculptural wool objects. She invites us to reflect on their creation, conception and history and motivates us to act consciously for a more sustainable future.

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Lienau intends to expand this series with further coastlines, always seeking to capture each landscape's unique rock colors, water surface gradients and elemental expression. To inquire about a custom Coastline object for your gallery, workplace or home, please get in touch.





## Cathedral-stool

heritage, culture and a place of rest

series

Captivated by the sheer elegance of the arches in cathedrals, Lienau explores this iconic architectural element in tangible dimensions. She is fascinated by the cross vault's innate ability to provide castles, palaces and keeps with their high level of structural integrity. Whether stand-alone or as a bench — two pieces side-by-side — her Cathedral\_stool poses as a sculptural homage to the structural timestamps. Heritage, culture and a place of rest, all in one. Bridging archaic grandeur and delicate contemporaneity, Lienau strikes a perfect balance. The finished stool is waterproof, weather-resistant and durable.

Lienau is currently working on a collaborative project with GOLEM to create more variations using a black shard effect glaze for a gallery in Miami, USA.



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All Lyk Carpet objects and carpets are unique. The individual pieces are hand-made using 100% Tibetan highland wool from living sheep – each piece is traditionally vegetable-dyed, pot-dyed and knotted in a Tibetan manufactory in Nepal.

Fairtrade certified by Label STEP.  
Slight variations in size and tone are possible.



front and back cover  
**Medley, 2018 / edition 25**

inner cover:  
**Lyk Carpet World**  
Photography: Anne Deppe  
Set design: Nici Theuerkauf

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**MoC Shooting**  
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Set design: Nici Theuerkauf

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Photography: Anne Deppe  
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100 knots per square inch  
280 cm x 255 cm  
lead time approx. 3 months

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## imprint

This lookbook was published to celebrate  
15 years of Lyk Carpet.

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Set design: Nici Theuerkauf

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Special thanks to all New Culture Carpet Manufaktur  
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lovers for the appreciation I receive for the work I do.

I feel profoundly connected to so many people through  
my work, and I am grateful for the positive ripple  
effects that every Lyk object I create has had around  
the globe.









## about

“I want my objects to bring people joy, connect them with the stories behind their creation and inspire them to think about broader global responsibilities, including fair trade practices and socio-ecological aspects.

All the while bringing intercultural connectedness to mind.”

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Mareike Lienau designs unique textile objects and bespoke collectible objects with her label, Lyk Carpet. Today, her focus lies on conceptualizing ideas for gallerists, architects and interior designers clients for specific locations, spaces and projects. She uses unexpected and unusual materials and techniques, combining them in unseen ways to bring craft to center stage. Lienau’s work fuses an avant-garde design approach with traditional craftsmanship. The question ‘What is contemporary about craft?’ is fundamental to her design process. Her vision, passion and values guide her design process. Many objects emerge from this unique triad.

All Lienau’s textiles are certified by Label STEP and handmade by a small-scale artisan manufacturing partner in Nepal using socially and environmentally responsible materials and production processes. Each object is hand-knotted using hand-spun and vegetable-dyed highland virgin wool.

The resulting pieces are intended to engage art and design lovers, encouraging them to think about global responsibilities and socio-ecological factors. Furthermore, Lienau’s work celebrates time-honored textile craftsmanship and the inherent beauty of natural wool and dyeing processes. With every design piece – whether presented on the floor, suspended from the ceiling, or placed somewhere in between –



Lienau explores the impacts of structure, texture, and color in space.

Lienau is an industrial design graduate. She studied Product and Process Design at Berlin University of the Arts (UDK).

“Mareike Lienau’s handcrafted pieces draw viewers in through striking combinations of color, texture, and pattern, as well as frequently unexpected forms.

Upon closer inspection, onlookers are further delighted to discover the stories behind each work – thoughtful and optimistic narratives that encourage self-reflection, connectivity, and social and environmental responsibility.”

Anna Carnick, curator and writer, USA