

Press release
Frankenberg, July 2020

High dining with the 118 H barstool Design: Sebastian Herkner, 2018/2019

Range 118, a collection of elegant wooden chairs by Sebastian Herkner for Thonet, was first launched in early 2018 and has successfully established itself in the market. There is now a new addition to the product family, the 118 H barstool – available with a choice of moulded plywood, canework or upholstered seat.

The new 118 H barstools, which were given their official premiere at imm cologne 2020, share the same distinctive features as the 118 chair. They too have been developed in response to current trends in both the home and the hospitality sector, where tall tables and high counters are very much in vogue. Available in two heights (65 and 75 cm), the barstool models in the 118 range are the perfect solution for such settings. The stool has a small backrest that provides just the right support for guests who want to linger in comfort.



As soon as Sebastian Herkner's 118 chair was launched, it was obvious that the designer had succeeded in forging an effortless link between Thonet's heritage and the present day. Simple yet sophisticated, the design is based on the same principle that Michael Thonet developed back in the mid-19th century: a chair reduced to the smallest number of components. The new 118 H barstool takes its inspiration from the 214 – the archetype of the Thonet chair – with a seat frame bent from a single piece of wood and a canework seat. And for added comfort, it is also available with an upholstered seat, creating an intriguing contrast between the elegantly understated wooden elements and the soft, comfortable cushioning. A version with moulded plywood seat completes the range.

But above all, it's the attention to detail that makes this chair range so special, despite its innate simplicity: the legs of the new barstool 118 H are rounded at the back and gently contoured at the front to echo the horseshoe shape of the seat. The result is a subtle elegance that is the hallmark of the entire 118 range.

The 118/118 H range is available in natural beech, various stained finishes and a high-gloss version.

Press release
Frankenberg, July 2020

Thonet press contact in the UK

QuickStep PR
Stephanie Bretherton
Unit 405 United House
North Road
London N7 9DP
United Kingdom
Tel. +44 (0) 20 – 7609 1151
E-mail stephanie@qspr.com

Thonet press contact international

neumann communication
Claudia Neumann, Anne Polch-Jahn, Hannah Knospe
Eigelstein 103-113
50668 Köln
Germany
Tel. +49 (0) 221 – 91 39 49 0
Fax +49 (0) 221 – 91 39 49 1
E-Mail thonet@neumann-communication.de

Thonet GmbH
Susanne Korn
Michael-Thonet-Straße 1
35066 Frankenberg
Germany
Tel. +49 (0) 6451 – 508 160
Fax +49 (0) 6451 – 508 168
E-Mail susanne.korn@thonet.de

Thonet – future-oriented furniture design with a long tradition

The unique success story of Thonet began with the work of master carpenter Michael Thonet. Ever since he established his first workshop in Boppard on the River Rhine in 1819, the name Thonet has stood for high-quality, innovative and elegant furniture. The breakthrough came with the iconic chair No. 14, today known the world over as the Vienna Coffee House Chair: the pioneering technique of bending solid beechwood enabled the mass production of chairs for the first time. The second milestone in design history was the tubular steel furniture by the famous Bauhaus architects Mart Stam, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Marcel Breuer in the 1930s. During those pioneering years, Thonet was the world's largest producer of these tubular steel furniture designs, which are today considered timeless.

For the company today, the continuous process of innovation is the top priority, together with a focus on tradition and fine craftsmanship. Thonet's furniture designs originate both from its collaborations with renowned national and international creatives and from the in-house Thonet Design Team. Chief Executive Officer Brian Boyd and Creative Director Norbert Ruf manage the company from the corporate head office and production site in Frankenberg/Eder (Germany). Michael Thonet's fifth- and sixth-generation descendants are actively involved with the company's business as partners and sales representatives.