



MAK

Press Release

FOCUS ON COLLECTING 6

Greg Lynn—Secret Table

Presentation Dates	17 May – 11 June 2017
Presentation Venue	MAK FORUM MAK, Stubenring 5, 1010 Vienna
Opening Hours	Tue 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Wed–Sun 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Free admission on Tuesdays from 6–10 p.m.

With *FOCUS ON COLLECTING 6: Greg Lynn—Secret Table*, the MAK presents renowned architect and designer Greg Lynn's *Secret Table*, revealing for the first time the process by which this extraordinary piece of furniture was created by presenting it in conjunction with two smaller models and reproductions of relevant design drawings. Whereas the *Secret Table* produced for the 2008 MAK exhibition *FORMLESS FURNITURE* in Vienna was directly assimilated into the MAK Furniture Collection, the two models realized in Los Angeles entered the MAK Collection only in 2012, as a gift of Greg Lynn. Within the framework of the FOCUS ON COLLECTING series—which here presents important acquisitions to the collection for the sixth time—the table, models, and design sketches are being shown together in public for the very first time.

Made of oak and alder wood, the *Secret Table* has a rectangular table top, in and under which are located computer-generated curved, convex-shaped “blobs.” These curvilinear highlights are reminiscent of so-called “blobjects”—a portmanteau word made up of “blob” and “object” used to describe seemingly organic entities with flowing, curvaceous forms. Around the mid-1980s, designers developed this innovative repertoire of forms—which really escapes definition—for a whole range of everyday objects from toothbrushes to motorbikes. When they appeared, blobjects playfully subverted the traditional repertoire of design shapes and created opportunities for a rejuvenation aesthetics inextricably linked with computer-aided design.

The dimensions of the “secret” bulges on the table's underside are so designed that

they function as “spatial pockets,” concealing cavities let into the tabletop that can be closed off and used to store provisions or tableware. As architect and designer, Greg Lynn was an early pioneer in the systematic application of computers to create “methodical” deviations from customary patterns and stereotypes.

In his design process, Greg Lynn incorporates computational errors—usually automatically suppressed by programming functions—to develop forms not based on classic geometry, enabling him to integrate expansive “formless” convexities—so-called “blebs” or bubbles—into the surface continuities of his designs. According to Greg Lynn in a statement on the *Secret Table* dating from 2008: “The tension between formlessness and rigor, between shapelessness and symmetry, between amorphousness and precision is one that I have always been drawn to describe. *The formless* is only formless because of frustrated attempts to master and measure it.”

Born in North Olmsted, Ohio, in 1964, since 1994 Greg Lynn has maintained his own studio, FORM, in Los Angeles. He currently teaches as Professor of Architecture at the University of Applied Arts Vienna, at the UCLA School of the Arts and Architecture in Los Angeles, and as guest professor at the Yale School of Architecture in New Haven, Connecticut. In 2008 Lynn won a Golden Lion at the Venice Architecture Biennale.

Photo material is available for download at MAK.at/press.

Press Data Sheet

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Curator	Sebastian Hackenschmidt, Curator, MAK Furniture and Woodwork Collection
MAK Admission	€ 9.90 / Reduced € 7.50 / Family Ticket € 13 Free admission for children and teens under 19
MAK Press and PR	Judith Anna Schwarz-Jungmann (Head) Sandra Hell-Ghignone Lara Steinhäuser Agnes Wyskitensky T +43 1 711 36-233, -229, -212 F +43 1 711 36-227 presse@MAK.at www.MAK.at

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