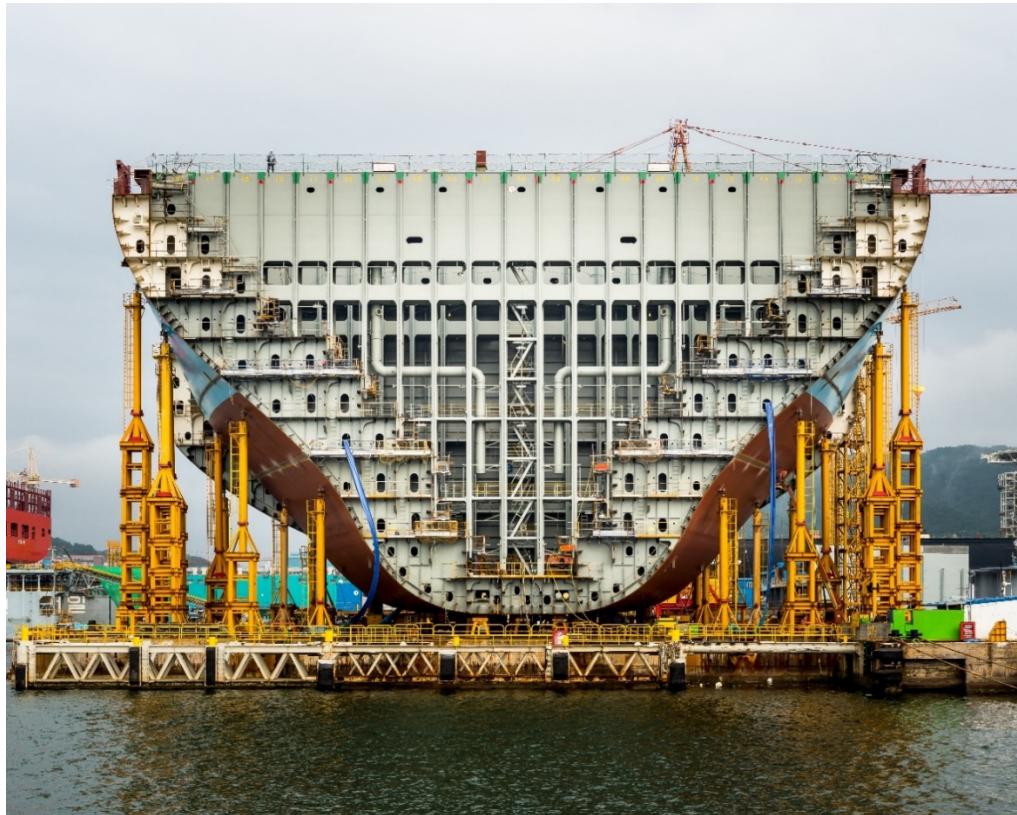


Press Release – 3 December 2020

*Unintended Beauty  
Photographs  
Alastair Philip Wiper*

Extended until 24 January 2021



Maersk Triple E, container ship under construction © Alastair Philip Wiper

The exhibition *Unintended Beauty* is a photographic exploration inside production sites around the world (adidas, Bang & Olufsen, Boeing, CERN, Kvadrat, Playmobil, etc.). The project offers a rare insight into places of work that are normally kept behind closed doors and reveals the hidden beauty and the incredible complexity of these infrastructures.

Machines that smash atoms together, make fabrics or produce medicines, all result from human collaborative imagination and tell us about who we are: our needs, desires, madness and our vision of the future. The sustainability of this future depends on our ability to create and innovate. This exponential creativity associated with cutting-edge technology strongly contributes to our well-being and at the same time constitutes a threat to life on earth.

These aesthetically fascinating images question the human being and his complex relationship to the machine. The exhibition offers an ethical reflection on production methods, which remains one of the key issues for design.

In parallel with the exhibition *Playground - The Design of Sneakers* (20 June 2020 to 10 January 2021) where Wiper's photographs of the adidas production sites in Bavaria and in Indonesia are shown, *Unintended Beauty* opens on June 20 at the Museum of Decorative Arts and Design in Bordeaux.

The book *Unintended Beauty* was published in Spring 2020

250 x 320 mm – 208 pages – 90 illustrations

Graphic design by IRONFLAG

Published by Hatje Cantz

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/j22am6v3xvg64p7/Unintended\\_Beauty\\_Full\\_Book.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/j22am6v3xvg64p7/Unintended_Beauty_Full_Book.pdf?dl=0)

#unintendedbeauty  
#alastairphilipwiper  
#madd\_bordeaux

## Featured facilities

adidas, CERN, Pernod Ricard, Boeing, European Space Agency, Playmobil, Bang & Olufsen, Technical University of Denmark, Danish Crown, Ørsted, Arla, Kvadrat, Lundbeck, Maersk, Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso, Steinway, Niederegger, Culham Centre for Fusion Energy, S.N.S. Herning, Mykita, Harry's, Jodrell Bank, Hasselblad, etc.

## Alastair Philip Wiper

British photographer Alastair Philip Wiper (Hamburg, 1980) is known for his unique ability to portray subjects of industry, science and architecture. Through a profound fascination with lines and symmetry, colour and contrast, Alastair masterfully captures the beauty of imperfection. Besides working regularly for magazines such as Wired, Scientific American, Wallpaper, The Guardian and Vice, Alastair has received great admiration and international acknowledgement for his series on Silicon Valley (Silicon Nights) and his book about Bang & Olufsen "The Art of Impossible".

<https://alastairphilipwiper.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/alastairwiper/>

## The musée des Arts décoratifs et du Design (madd-bordeaux)

A museum present in Bordeaux for more than 95 years

The Museum is installed in a former private residence, the hôtel de Lalande, built in Bordeaux between 1775 and 1779 for the parliamentary councillor Pierre de Raymond de Lalande. The status of the house changed over the years. In 1880, it was purchased by the City, which first of all installed its police department in it, and built a prison behind it, where the garden used to be. Then the City established the Musée d'Art ancien (Museum of Ancient Art) in 1924, which became the Musée des Arts décoratifs (Museum of Decorative Arts) in 1955. In 1984, the museum was converted to evoke a wealthy aristocratic residence, typical of the Enlightenment in Bordeaux. The museum's collection represents a fine example of French 18th and 19th century decorative arts and tells the history of Bordeaux, a major trading port, through paintings, drawings and sculptures.

Since 2013, its name has evolved into a "Museum of Decorative Arts and Design" in order to make visible the institution's desire to become an important place for promoting and spreading the culture of design in France. For the last 6 years, the madd-bordeaux has been developing a substantial program that brings together decorative arts and design, notably through the renewed presentation of its design collection in areas dedicated to antique collections and the organization of temporary exhibitions. This cultural program has considerably renewed and increased the museum attendance.

A development that led to a modernisation and renovation project of the two buildings of the museum classified as historical monuments since 2018: the former prison (new exhibition space since 2016) and the hôtel de Lalande. The winners Aymeric Antoine and Pierre Dufour, Agence Antoine Dufour, are two young architects who received, in November 2019, the Silver Square Price in the first work category. They are currently working with the museum team to start the works late 2021. This architectural is sponsored by Elisabeth Wilmers, owner of Château Haut-Bailly.

<http://madd-bordeaux.fr>

The museum wants to thank

Château Haut-Bailly,  
mécène d'honneur

Kvadrat  
The Danish Arts Foundation

For their fidelity, the museum would also like to thank

Les Amis et le Cercle du madd-bordeaux

Château Nairac

Farrow & Ball

Les Crus Bourgeois du Médoc

La société de négoce DIVA

Samsung

## Iconography

All the images and credits will be available on DropBox following this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/olxphfrqzxnr7ki/AABkzIPBPCmRm2brMd6TodHza?dl=0>  
or on demand via WeTransfer.

## Practical information

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