

# LALLA VIGNELLI

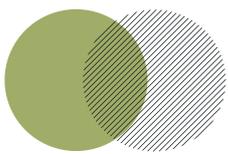
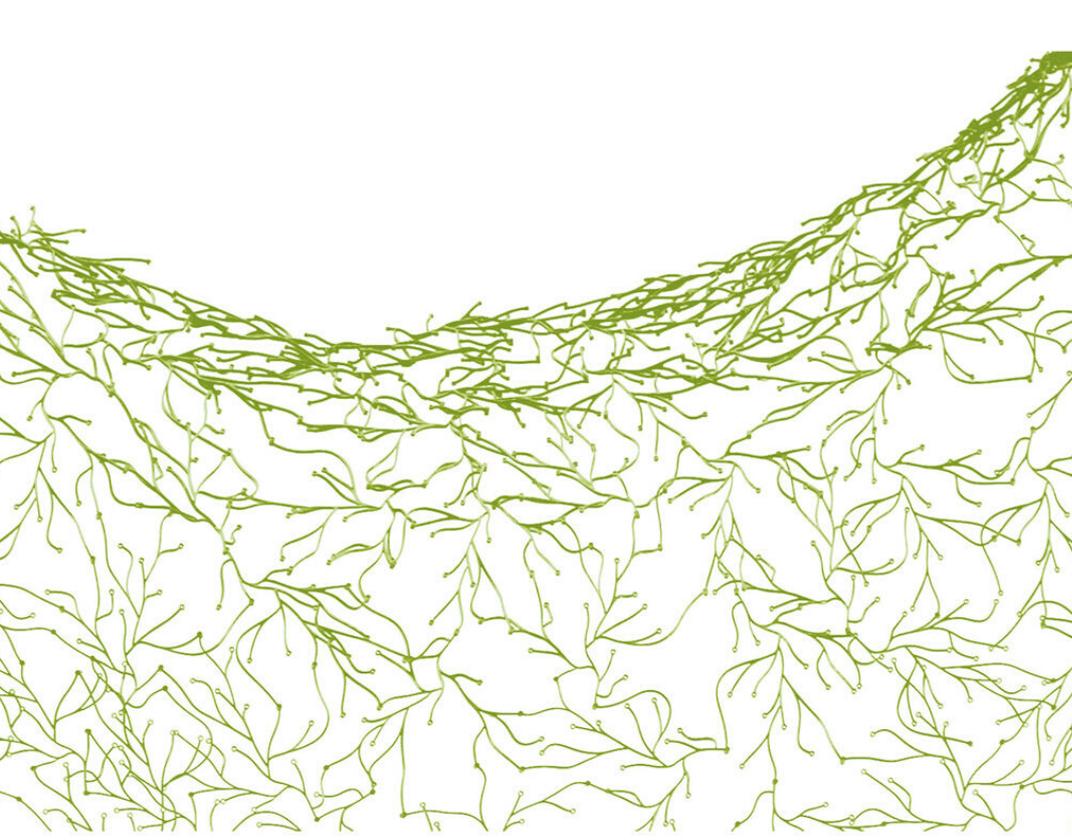
1934-2016  
Designer



# Lella Vignelli

Lella, who came from a family of Italian architects, completed her degree at the University of Venice's School of Architecture, where she was one of just three women in the class of 1953. She married Massimo in 1957 and promptly relocated in America, traveling widely and spending two years in Chicago, where Lella worked at SOM designing interiors and furniture, before returning to Italy and beginning their lifelong collaboration. In 1965, Massimo became a founding partner of Unimark International, and he and Lella moved again, this time to New York. However, due to company policy against spouses working together, Lella was forbidden from holding a position, and instead worked behind the scenes as a consultant while Massimo became the public face of their designs. In 1971, they walked away from Unimark to start their own firm, allowing them to officially operate as equal design partners and collaborate at virtually all levels of the design process.





# ROWAN & ERWAN BOUROULLEC

Designers

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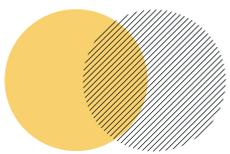
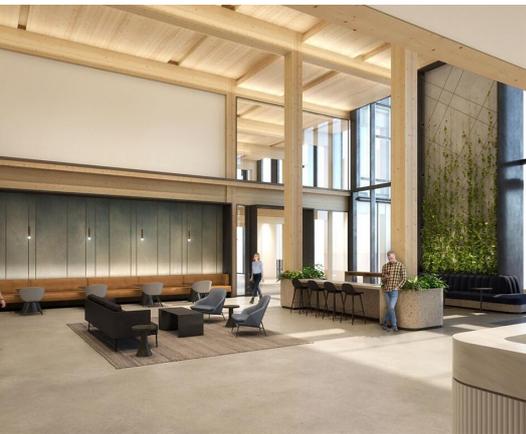
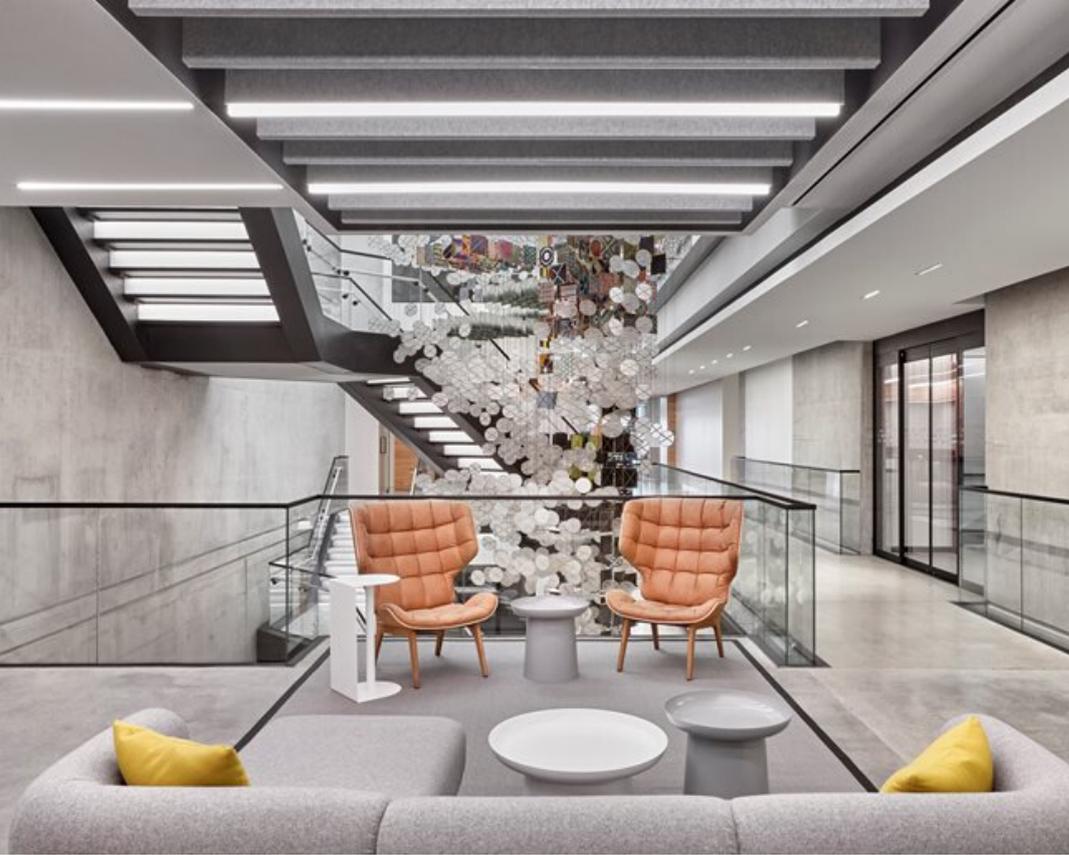




# Rowan & Erwan Bouroullec

Brothers Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, born 1971 and 1976, respectively, in Quimper, France, studied at the École Nationale des Arts Décoratifs in Paris and at the École des Beaux-Arts in Cergy-Pontoise. Ronan began independent design work immediately after completing his studies, while his brother, who was still in school, assisted him. Since 1999 both brothers have worked together as joint partners in their own Paris-based design studio. Their work ranges from small utilitarian objects to architectural projects. In addition to the design of domestic and office furniture, vases, porcelain dishware, jewellery and diverse home accessories, a primary focus of their work is the design and organisation of interior space. One of their most unconventional designs, Algue (2004), was created in this context. The collaboration between the Bouroullec brothers and Vitra began with the office furniture system Joyn, which was developed between 2000 and 2002 and continues to be expanded and refined.





# VERDA ALEXANDER

Interior designer

@o\_plus\_a 

/oplusa 

@verdaalexander 

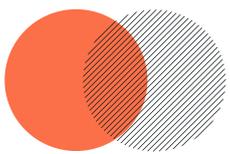
www.vignelli.com 



# Verda Alexander

One of Studio O+A's founders, Verda's vision has shaped the company from its earliest days. Combining a career in fine art with a passionate commitment to improving lives through design, her contribution to a project is to question received wisdom, test basic assumptions and look beyond conventional solutions to a more creative path. Verda's early expertise in landscape architecture and fine arts continues to inform her interiors work today. Her experimental projects for O+A, from pop-up installations on the future of workplace to a mobile design lab partnering with communities across California, have consistently opened new doors of exploration in the company's approach to more mainstream projects.





# ROBIN DAY OBE

1915-2010  
Furniture Designer



# Robin Day OBE

Robin Day was born in High Wycombe in 1915, the son of a police constable. He trained as an industrial and furniture designer at the Royal College of Art in London, where he met his future wife, Lucienne (print designer).

Robin Day rose to fame during the 1951 Festival of Britain where he won the Chartered Society of Designers's Minerva Medal, the highest tribute the Society offers and was awarded for a lifetime achievement in the field of design.

Robin Day believed in the power of modern furniture and design to uplift and make the world a better place, and right from the start of his career, he dedicated himself to the design of low-cost, 'high tech', mass-produced furniture.

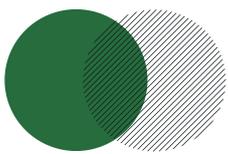




SOCIATES



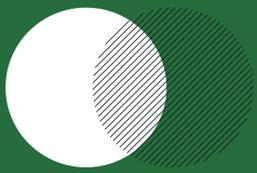
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# NORMA MERRICK SKLAREK

1926-2012  
Architect

[architectuul.com/architect/norma-merrick-sklarek/](http://architectuul.com/architect/norma-merrick-sklarek/) 



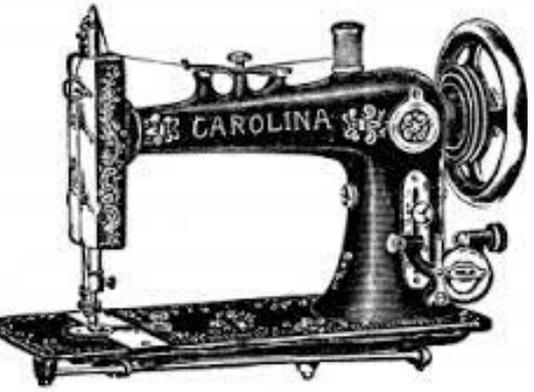
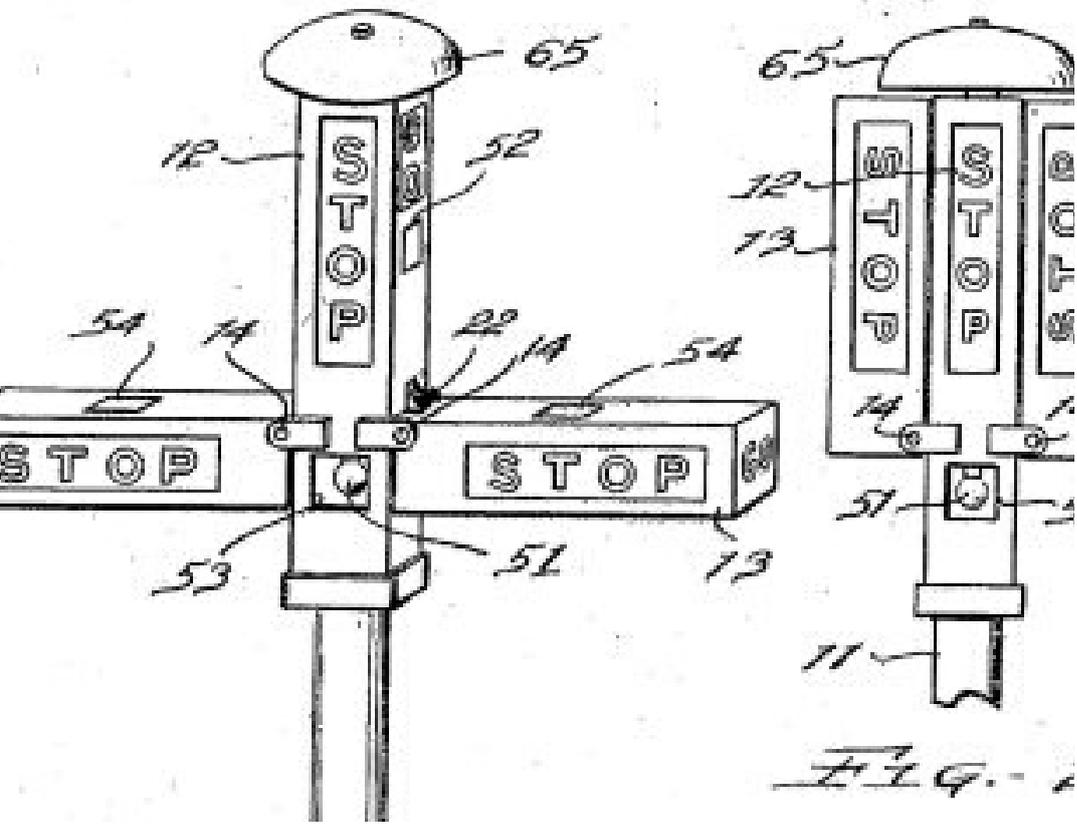
# Norma Merrick Sklarek

Norma Sklarek, a pioneer in the field of architecture, was the first licensed African-American female architect and the first black female fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1962. After a year, she enrolled at Columbia University's School of Architecture, an accomplishment all on its own considering that Columbia only accepted a handful of women each year.

From 1960 to 1980 she was director of architecture at Gruen Associates in Los Angeles, passing her California license in 1962, the first black woman to do so. In 1967 she married fellow Gruen architect Rolf Sklarek.

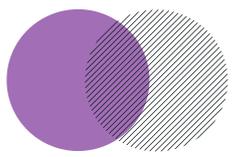
In 1990 she became the only black woman elected to the American Institute of Architecture (AIA) College of Fellows. Among many prominent designs, her best known projects are Terminal One at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and the U. S. Embassy building in Tokyo, Japan.





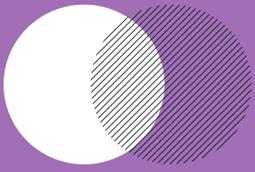
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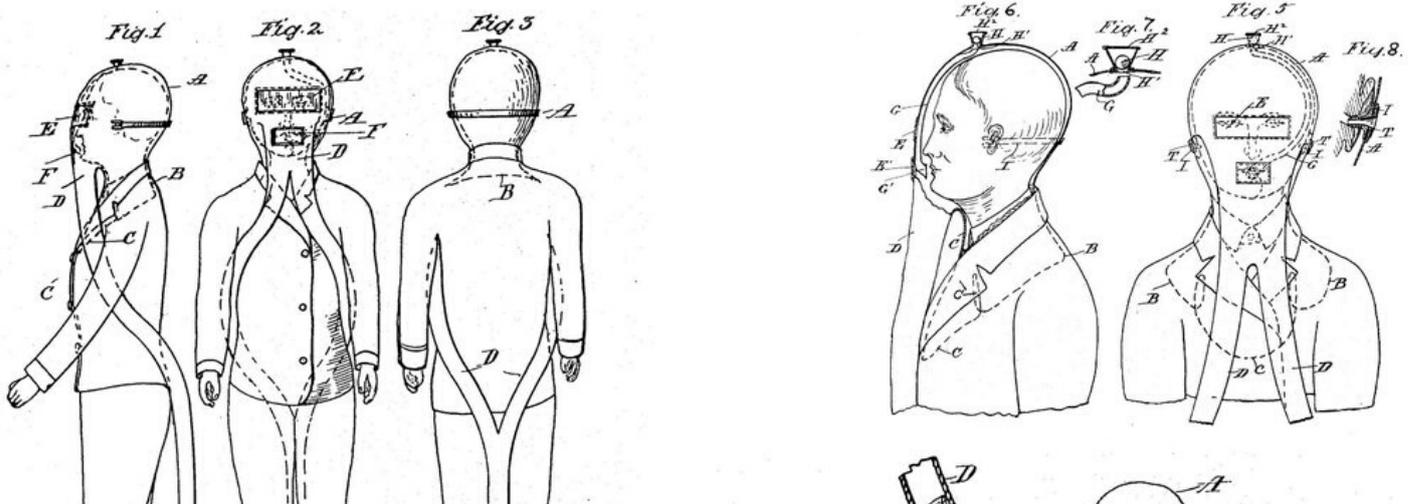
# GARRETT A. MORGAN

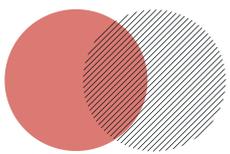
1877-1963  
Inventor



# Garrett A. Morgan

Morgan's tailoring business was equipped with machines that he personally designed. Morgan was most famous for patenting the first traffic signal in the United States. Morgan, witnessed a crash between a car and a buggy. This event supposedly convinced the inventor to create the stoplight. His traffic signal was mounted on a T-shaped pole. It had three different types of signals stop, go, and stop in all directions. Morgan eventually patented this device in Canada and UK as well. He sold his patent to General Electric Corporation for forty thousand dollars. In 1916, he patented his version of the gas mask. Morgan demonstrated his superior design when a group of miners were trapped in a shaft under Lake Erie. He immediately received orders for his product from fire departments and mine owners across the United States and Europe. The United States Army also utilized a slightly redesigned Morgan gas mask during World War I. Morgan also invented a zigzag stitching device for manually-operated sewing machines.

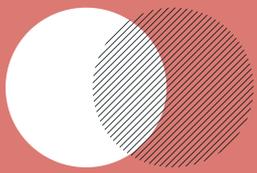




# HELLA JONGERIUS

Designer

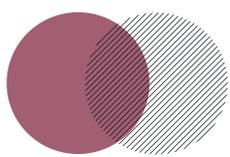
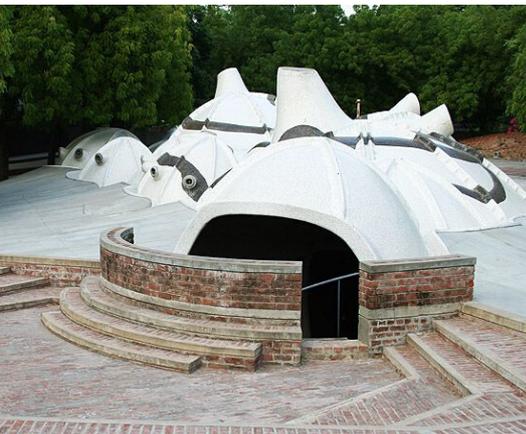
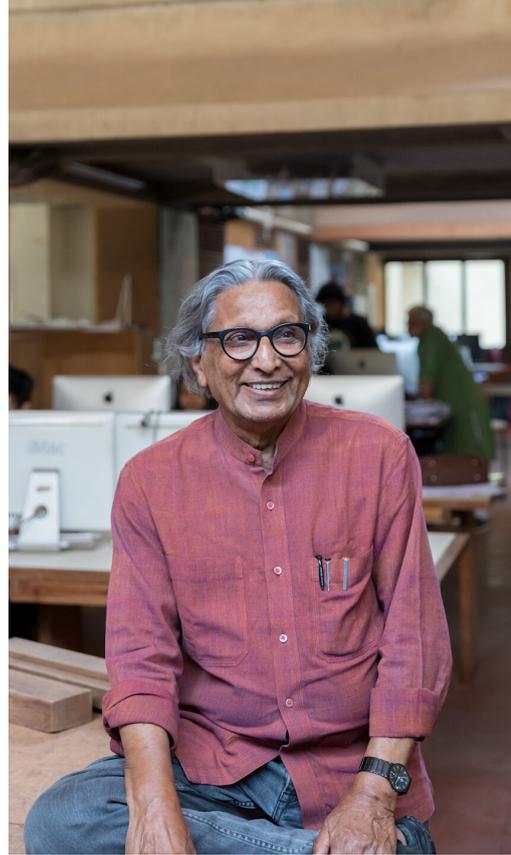
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jongeriuslab.com 



# Hella Jongerius

The designer Hella Jongerius has become known for the manner in which she fuses industry and craft, high- and low-tech, traditional and contemporary. In 1993 she founded the Jongeriuslab studio, where she has pursued independent projects and also created products for major clients, including Maharam, Danskina, IKEA and KLM. For Vitra, the Dutch designer has developed distinctive pieces such as the Polder Sofa and the East River Chair. Jongerius has consistently addressed the significance of colours and surfaces in contemporary design in her work with textiles, ceramics and furniture. She has been the Art Director for colours and materials at Vitra for many years and developed the Vitra Colour & Material Library – a system that enables the versatile combination of different materials and colours throughout the extensive Vitra product collection. Hella Jongerius has also written a book about this complex task entitled «I Don't Have a Favorite Colour».





# BALKRISHNA DOSHI

Architect

[britannica.com/biography/Balkrishna-Doshi](https://www.britannica.com/biography/Balkrishna-Doshi) 



# Balkrishna Doshi

Doshi's grandfather owned a furniture workshop, and Doshi initially believed he would take up that profession as well. He became interested in architecture, however, and in 1947 he entered the Sir J.J. School of Architecture in Bombay (Mumbai). In 1950 he traveled to London, where he met Le Corbusier, and, for the next four years, Doshi worked in the famed architect's studio in Paris. He returned to India to oversee the construction of some of Le Corbusier's projects, including the Mill Owners' Association Building (1954) and the Villa Sarabhai in Ahmedabad (1955). He eventually settled in that city, where he designed his own residence (1963), named Kamala House after his wife; his studio, Sangath (1980); and some of his most important projects. In 1956 Doshi founded his own practice, Vastushilpa, which he later renamed Vastushilpa Consultants. The firm worked on more than 100 projects throughout India, including a collaboration with Louis Kahn on the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (1962).

