

izé

PRESS RELEASE

SLANT HANDLE BY SIMON PENGELLY FOR IZÉ WILL BE LAUNCHED AT THE DESIGN JUNCTION, 19-23 SEPTEMBER



Simon Pengelly's Slant door handle is a simple and elegant fluid shape that sees a solid round neck transforming into a subtle, flat, angled lever thanks to an indentation at the junction of the neck and the grip. It is as if some of the metal was carved away to create a visually arresting swirl at the neck.

The handle invites the user to experiment with the ways of fixing: unusually, it can be fixed in two different ways, creating two very different looks, while being equally comfortable in the hand. The lever either slants towards the door from the top down or outwards, away from the door. This playfulness is unusual for door handles and creates numerous possibilities: you can use a pair of handles slanting inwards on one door and slanting outwards on another; you can even fix a handle facing one way on one side of the door and facing the other way on the other side, perhaps depending on the usage of the rooms on either side of the door.

In this possibility of asymmetrical use, Pengelly builds on the precedent of the door handles designed by Ludwig Wittgenstein for his sister's house in the late 1920s. Wittgenstein's handles are a mismatched pair, one a simple bent tube and the other featuring a double bend, reflecting the hierarchy of spaces for which they were designed. Pengelly's design allows for the same mismatching simply by switching around the way the handles are fixed.

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Founded in 2001 in an attempt to reconcile the realms of architecture, design, art and manufacture, izé develops and manufactures bespoke and production door handles and related hardware. Working with architects and industrial and product designers, izé aims to create products which make the everyday rituals of using space more pleasurable and meaningful through an enhanced sense of touch and material. izé has worked with designers including Zaha Hadid, David Adjaye, 6a Architects, Aldo Bakker, Kenneth Grange, Sebastian Bergne and Mark Pimlott among many others. izé's door handles have been exhibited at the Royal Academy and the Design Museum in London and many are in the Victoria & Albert's permanent collection.

For more information please contact Krisztina Heathcote at izé Krisztina@ize.info or 07761 485089

www.ize.info / 02073843302