



izé

Aldo Bakker's new design for izé is an elegant brass lever handle which swells and flares into a broad, slender pad which sits ergonomically into the palm. Seen from the front it appears as a slim, fluid fin but from above it reveals itself as an altogether different object, an organic form, the lines of which seem to flow seamlessly from the door. Bakker teaches at the Design Academy Eindhoven with Ilse Crawford and his humane, minimal and work has been garnering praise in the press and engendering desire from collectors. Spanning ceramics, hand-crafted copper and furniture, Bakker's aesthetic is fluid, delicate and surprising, displaying a range of influences from Japanese craft to pure Modernism.

Aldo Bakker (Amersfoort, NL 1971) comes from a venerable design background. His father is Gijs Bakker, co-founder of Dutch design collective Droog and one of the first and most influential conceptual designers, while his mother was jewellery designer Emmy van Leersum. He propounds the notion that objects possess and evoke emotions in the user and that they can communicate through association, touch, texture and materiality. His work, often strange yet also strangely familiar, is intended to pose questions and trigger responses. He writes: 'My objects should be able to create a space around themselves, to define their context on their own. I question their meaning and, hence, their use. In the ideal case an object acquires a status that legitimises itself, independently of the surroundings.'

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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 hardware. Working with architects and industrial and interior 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, Kenneth Grange, Peter Saville, Sergison Bates, Mark Pimlott, Eric Parry and many others.