

nendo designs 50 chairs for friedman benda influenced by manga comics

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all images courtesy of kenichi sonehara

nendo's '50 manga chairs' installation for friedman benda draws a comparison between manga comics and furniture design. a term commonly associated with comics printed in japan, 'manga' consists of a series of frames on a single sheet of paper that create a structured sequence rendered with a high degree of flatness and abstraction. similarly, nendo's designs are lined up in a grid, with each individual chair characterising a specific 'manga' drawing element – so in effect each piece becomes a section within a story board. for example, a 'speech bubble' or 'effect line' are added to visualise sound or action; or emotional symbols from manga, like "sweat" or "tears", are formed so that a sense of narrative and character can be felt. with the abstraction of manga comics in mind, physical aspects such as colour and texture are intentionally avoided. instead, a complete mirror finish is opted for, which generates new spatial layers as the chairs' surfaces reflect the real

Smith, Hollie. "nendo designs 50 chairs for friedman benda influenced by manga comics," *designboom*, March 16, 2016.

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world, just like 'manga' does. nendo presents his '50 manga chairs' installation during milan design week 2016.



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each individual chair takes on a manga characteristic such as swirls of motion

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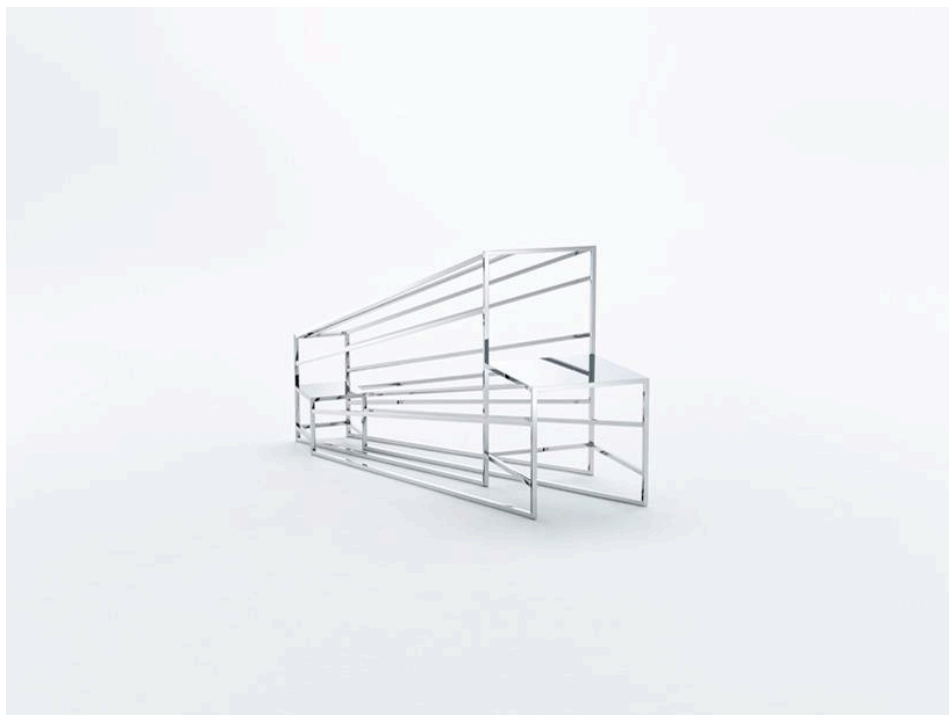
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a static chair contains a sense of motion



each individual piece takes on a playful energy

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