

Sisu

Nanna Ditzel & Danh Vo

kvadrat



Sisu

91 % Norwegian Wool 8% New Zealand Wool, 1 % Nylon
142 cm wide
16 colourways

Sisu

Sisu is a checked upholstery designed by the celebrated designer Nanna Ditzel, which links to the iconic textile *Hallingdal* she created for Kvadrat in 1965. It is curated by artist Danh Vo, who discovered the design in the Kvadrat archives and chose it for an exhibition at Denmark's National Gallery (SMK) entitled '*Take My Breath Away*'.

Danh Vo discovered *Sisu* as he explored Nanna Ditzel's output – a journey sparked by his curiosity around the relationship between textiles and furniture where he then delved into her acclaimed body of work.

The expression of *Sisu* is reminiscent of looking at *Hallingdal* through a magnifying glass. The textile is woven with thick, voluminous woollen yarns and features a bold yet subtle, checked pattern. Blocks of colour play across its surface, rising to tactile, rhythmic effect.

Consequently, the construction of *Sisu* is immediately apparent as you encounter the textile. Nothing is hidden, and the design expresses the essence of the woven textile, invoking a strong sense of craftsmanship.

Stine Find Other, VP Design, Kvadrat: "*Sisu* directly links to *Hallingdal*, which is one of Kvadrat's first textiles and plays a big part in our story. It shines a light on our history and heritage of Danish design. *Sisu* also acts as a timely reminder that most textile designers have traditionally been women – which is sometimes overlooked. The idea of underlining the defining role of female designers informed our exploration of the Kvadrat archives from the start."

Sisu's colour scales comprises shades that match the yarn colours Nanna Ditzel created for *Hallingdal*. Danh Vo has curated these hues into contemporary colourways, which respect the heritage of the original design. His approach ensures that, while *Sisu* has a more pronounced structure, the textiles seamlessly complement each other.

Hallingdal and *Sisu* offer similar performance and durability, and are suitable for virtually all commercial and residential applications.

Danh Vo: "*Many companies don't design things to last. So, it is beautiful to see how seriously Kvadrat has re-produced this textile with every intention to make it last.*"

Sisu is produced at Kvadrat's weaving mill in Innvik, Norway. Most of the wool used in its construction is locally sourced, contributing towards a reduced environmental impact.

About Nanna Ditzel

Nanna Ditzel is an iconic figure of mid-century Danish design. She worked as a cabinet maker before graduating from the School of Arts and Crafts and The Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen in 1946. Following this, she went on to design timeless furniture, jewellery and textiles, many of which are still in production today.

In her work, Nanna Ditzel embraced the production and material innovations of her time: she designed objects in a broad spectrum of materials, including fibreglass, wicker and metal. Nanna Ditzel's work often uses colour and organic forms and is widely celebrated for its timeless functionality. This quality is never more apparent than in her classic textile design *Hallingdal 65*, which remains one of Kvadrat's most popular textiles.

About Danh Vo

Danh (pronounced Ya:n) Vo was born in Vietnam in 1975 and arrived in Denmark at the age of four. Hoping to reach the USA, Vo and his family had fled Vietnam on a boat, when they were picked up by a Maersk vessel in the Pacific Ocean and taken to Denmark.

Danh Vo is a graduate from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts and the Städelschule in Frankfurt. He has received the international art award Hugo Boss Prize and has presented solo shows across the world. Recent examples include Statens Museum for Kunst (2018), Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2018), Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (2015-16); Museum Ludwig, Cologne (2015) and Museo Jumex, Mexico City (2014-15). In 2015 he represented Denmark at the Venice Biennale.

Kvadrat

Kvadrat was established in Denmark in 1968 and has deep roots in Scandinavia's world-famous design tradition. A leader in design innovation, Kvadrat produces high-performance, design textiles, rugs, acoustic and window covering solutions for both commercial and residential interiors.

Our products reflect our commitment to colour, quality, simplicity and innovation. We consistently push the aesthetic, technological and functional properties of textiles. In doing so, we collaborate with leading designers, architects and artists including: Miriam Bäckström, Raf Simons, Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, Thomas Demand, Olafur Eliasson, Alfredo Häberli, Akira Minagawa, Peter Saville, Roman Signer, Doshi Levien and Patricia Urquiola.

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