



It's all Werk, Werk, Werk

VIENNESE specialists in 20th century design Michaela and Wolfgang Bauer, who understandably have a penchant towards the innovators from their own city, currently have two selling exhibitions at **bel étage**, their gallery on Mahlerstrasse.

Showing until January 31 next year is *Wiener Werkstätte - Timeless Modernism*, a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the influential Austrian movement through a varied selection of work by the movement's most celebrated artists, designers and their students.

There is work by the most important of these, Josef Hoffmann, Koloman Moser, Dagobert Peche, Otto Prutscher, Michael Powolny, Franz von Zülow and Bertold Löffler.

The selection includes two glass cabinets designed by Moser for the Villa Henneberg and, the prize of the show, a rare fall-front desk designed by Hoffmann in 1910 for the Villa Ast, Vienna.

Above, we illustrate the sideboard from a suite of blue furniture with its original blue paint, designed and made in Vienna around 1930 by Wilhelm and Johann Jonasch, pupils of Hoffmann.

Silver, glass, works on paper and jewellery complete a memorable celebratory collection.

The *bel étage*'s regular *Autumn Exhibition* runs until December 23 and this also contains some gems, among them an Olbrich wall clock from 1900, a Gurschner table lamp with two Lötz lampshades and paintings by Laszlo Gabor.

The show at *bel étage* is just one aspect of citywide celebrations in Vienna marking the centenary of one of the most significant events in Austrian design history, the founding of the Wiener Werkstätte in 1903 by Josef Hoffmann and Koloman Moser, two professors from the School of Applied Arts, and the entrepreneur Fritz Waerndorfer.

Currently five Viennese galleries are holding *Werkstätte* exhibitions, special auctions are scheduled for Dorotheum and Im Kinsky, and exhibitions will be mounted at The Museum of the City of Vienna and the Austrian Museum of Applied Arts.