

## **About**

In 2013, Martin Lesjak co-founded with designer Anastasija Lesjak the product design firm 13&9 in Graz, Austria. The team's cooperation with specialist partners has led to creating product collections from concept through production in the spheres of lighting, furniture, floor coverings, fashion, accessories, exhibition, and sound design. The creative community is both a design studio for international companies – BuzziSpace, Mohawk Group, Quinze & Milan, Lande, Artifort, Wever & Ducré, Robert La Roche, XAL, and VITEO Outdoors – and its own label which produces and sells their own products. With its label, 13&9 is committed to produce products with small-scale and local manufacturers aiming to support creative growth in the immediate area and encourage responsible environmental practices. The issues such as modularity, compatibility, flexibility and transformation are key in the development of new concepts in order to bring forth a variety of possible uses and foster the user's creativity through individualized solutions. The overall results are unique designs that combine functional necessities and innovations with conceptual aesthetics, which also offer an emotional component, adding value to the product, "the soul." Using a transdisciplinary approach, 13&9 has received numerous awards, been featured in many publications, and also exhibited their diverse works internationally.