

**NEXTGEN Collection SPHERE receives German Design Award 2016**  
**Recognised with the “Special Mention” Category**



*Neustadt, February 2016* – Nachtmann’s SPHERE glass series has been awarded a German Design Award at the Ambiente fair in Frankfurt, the most important international consumer goods fair. The series was awarded within the “Special Mention” category, and is not the first win for the range. SPHERE was bestowed a Red Dot Design Award in 2015, and the Bayerischer Staatspreis in 2014, for its excellent design.

Established in 2012, the German Design Award is one of the best-known design competitions in the world, held in high regard well beyond professional circles. It is bestowed by the German Design Council, the main authority for brands and design in Germany, who are particularly committed to supporting emerging talent.

This commitment ties in well with the program responsible for SPHERE’s design, Nachtmann NEXTGEN. The program, established in 2007, was the brainchild of Maximilian Riedel, CEO of the parent company Riedel Glass Works, and international designer, Stefanie Kubanek. Their goal was to provide an opportunity for talented young designers from all over the world to bring their ideas to life, working with a respected and quality glass manufacturer.

The SPHERE series was a result of the 2013 program, held in cooperation with Prague’s renowned Academy of Arts, Architecture, and Design. The winning designer, Roman Kvita, created a product that expertly toys with light and creates fascinating refraction. Including tumblers, plates, bowls, vases, and votives, the series’ repetitive spherical shapes emphasize the beauty of geometry in three dimensions. “I let myself be inspired by the plainest geometrical shape there is – the sphere,” explains Roman Kvita. “I’m fascinated by the spectacular refractions, caused by the round shapes.” His adept use of light to complement the design adds a timeless quality to the series.

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## **About Nachtmann NEXTGEN**

The NEXTGEN program creates an ideal collaboration between a traditional manufacturer, with strong roots in craftsmanship, and leading international design schools. Nachtmann NEXTGEN aims to provide a platform in which the next generation of designers can demonstrate their imagination in a professional environment. Under the motto, "Vibrant cities with curious, creative minds and an appetite for ideas", the NEXTGEN competition has so far been held in New York, Stockholm, Tokyo, Prague, Beijing, and Stuttgart. The portfolio now boasts over 50 items and is one of Nachtmann's most successful product categories.

The latest design competition was held from November 2014 to June 2015, in cooperation with the Central Academy of Fine Arts in China, under the motto "Designed in China, made in Germany".

## **About Nachtmann**

Nachtmann is fine crystal glassware manufacturer from Bavaria, with a heritage going back almost 200 years. The company combines their decades of expertise in traditional glassmaking with innovative production processes and modern machine manufacturing.

Its products stand for "the best of Made in Germany", and reflect the company's commitment and devotion to fine quality and outstanding design. Produced in extremely clear, brilliant crystal glass, the plates, bowls, vases, votives, and glasses in the Nachtmann range bring a touch of luxury and sparkle to everyday life.

## **About the German Design Awards**

Every year, top-quality submissions from product and communications design are awarded, all of which are uniquely groundbreaking in the international design landscape.

The German Federal Parliament founded the German Design Council in 1953. Their objective was to create a platform through which Germany's outstanding contributions to design could be communicated both nationally and internationally. The Council has since become one of the globe's leading centres of excellence, for communication and brand management in the sector of design.

Now boasting more than 200 members, including designers, businesses, and associations, the foundation is committed to supporting emerging talent as well as promoting the unique and valuable contribution of German design to business and culture.

For more information, please visit [www.nachtmann.com](http://www.nachtmann.com) and [www.nachtmannnextgen.com](http://www.nachtmannnextgen.com).

## **Nachtmann NEXTGEN Videos:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7yKzqc6IUM&feature=youtu.be>

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