128 France / Warsaw, Poland

It is the often nomadic nature of the background and education of contemporary designers that feeds their creativity. It also gives them courage and flexibility, preparing them for the uncertainty of a fragile industry. Maria Jeglińska-Adamczewska has lived between France, Switzerland, and Poland. For some time, she has been based between France and Poland, where she opened her studio in 2012 and has built a career working on many different scales, from furniture and objects (most famously those designed for the luxury hospitality chain Puro Hotels) through art-directing commercial events and curating exhibitions.

Jeglińska-Adamczewska has designed projects for the Saint-Étienne Biennale, the London Design Biennale, and the Łódź Design Festival. She has also been the creative director of the Polish fair Arena Design in Poznań. These projects were not just useful commissions but also, perhaps more importantly, served as research platforms and provided her with the opportunity to test new ideas and prototypes through ephemeral architectural structures.

Playing with color, mobility, and transparency, Jeglińska-Adamczewska's furniture pieces are characterized by a casual use of materials, such as recycled fabrics, industrial glass, and pigment. They are versatile objects, often informal, on wheels, such as her multifunctional Portable Walls (2019), or with staggered surfaces. Storage units can be moved around and used to divide spaces as if they were domestic film sets. The recurrent use of curves and surfaces in sequence lends her work an underlying expressiveness. This is the case in the "Arco" collection (2020), where the seats are a contemporary version of the *sgabelli* stools of the Renaissance and the structure that supports the table and the legs themselves is designed not merely for stability or comfort but to give that added burst of energy that has become the designer's signature. Such projects make hers one of the loudest voices in European design today.





"Arco" collection seat and table. American cherrywood. American Hardwood Export Council. 2020.



Portable Walls. Wood, aluminum. Museum of Applied Arts, Budapest. 2019.