

# MONOCLE

**INSIDE:** BRIGHT IDEAS FROM BARCELONA, A BEIRUT CHANTEUSE AND AMERICA'S NEW LIBERAL CAPITAL

**M** **A to F** **AFFAIRS:** Mongolia's superpower sandwich **BUSINESS:** HQ audit: Uniqlo **CULTURE:** Bangkok gets bookish  
**DESIGN:** Australia's best-designed hotel? **ENTERTAINING:** Let's have a date **FASHION:** Why Seoul's back in the groove

## WHERE CAN I CALL HOME?

The cities, developments and streets to consider for your new base



AN EXPO ON THE SHORTAGE OF BLUE

### Designs on better building

- 1 A modern masterpiece in Los Angeles
- 2 Artisans and architects to commission
- 3 Top 25: a rundown of pieces to invest in
- 4 Dispatches from three design fairs
- 5 The big business of selling small

SEK 95  
JPY ¥2,200 (incl. tax)  
AUD \$13.00  
SGD \$19.90 (w/gst)  
CDN \$12.00 (est.)  
ESP €11

UK £6  
USD \$12  
GER €12  
ITA €10  
DKK 122  
BEL €11



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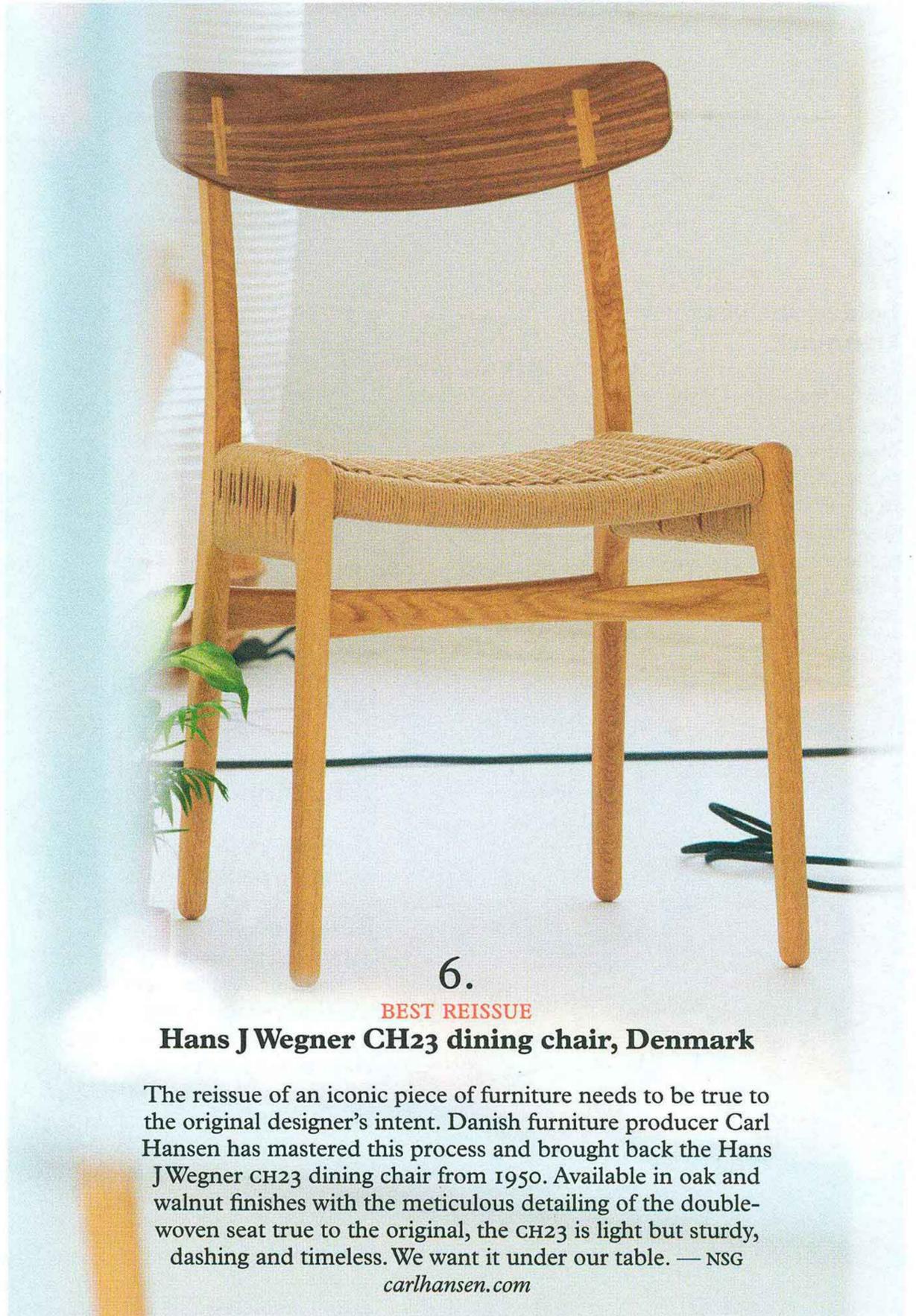
+ **i** **INVENTORY:** Berlin mit Andreas Murkudis. A fresh hotel tour of **STOCKHOLM**. Snapshot of Taiwan's laidback **TAINAN**. **THE NEAT VIEW** on **BARBERING** and life at **06.00**. City stockists: **LONDON+**. Our pick of **FILMS, READS** and **BEAUTY** too.



**5.**  
**BEST FOR INDEPENDENT STYLE**  
**Pacific Furniture Service, Japan**

Yohei Ishikawa is fine with swimming against the tide of fashion. As a design student in the 1980s, while his contemporaries were in thrall to the high design of postmodernism, Ishikawa was drawn to the warmth and wood of Japanese *mingei* folk art and craft. "I've always loved that combination of beauty and function," he says. He set up Pacific Furniture Service in 1988 and started designing his own pieces in 1992. Today he has a workshop in Yokohama (his fourth and largest), a shop and showroom in a 1970s residential block in Ebisu, Tokyo, and a collection of more than 30 pieces for the home: squasy textile sofas, sturdy oak tables and sideboards made from birch.

Ishikawa has also been selling Lyon steel lockers – the type usually seen in schools – from the US for years, believing that they work well in a domestic setting. "People don't give enough recognition to that kind of anonymous design," he says. Inevitably fashion has caught up with him and his emphasis on natural materials and quiet, longlasting design that ages well is now very much in vogue. — FW  
[pfservice.co.jp](http://pfservice.co.jp)



**6.**  
**BEST REISSUE**  
**Hans J Wegner CH23 dining chair, Denmark**

The reissue of an iconic piece of furniture needs to be true to the original designer's intent. Danish furniture producer Carl Hansen has mastered this process and brought back the Hans J Wegner CH23 dining chair from 1950. Available in oak and walnut finishes with the meticulous detailing of the double-woven seat true to the original, the CH23 is light but sturdy, dashing and timeless. We want it under our table. — NSG  
[carlhansen.com](http://carlhansen.com)



**7.**  
**BEST FOR INVENTION**  
**Theia lamp by Marset, Spain**

This steel aluminium lamp has a streamlined design of two opaque, intersecting half-spheres, one placed horizontally and the other vertically. Swivel the fixture around its central axis and point it towards you to use as a reading lamp, or at an object or wall to create subtle, indirect light.

"My intention was to merge both light and shadow in a single piece, achieving a sense of natural light. For me light is only interesting if you see the shadow at the same time," says Mathias Hahn, the London-based German behind the design. — DK  
[marset.com](http://marset.com)