

# The Home of Hans Bølling

THE HOME OF HANS BØLLING AT 3DAYSOFDESIGN

AHEC AND BRDR. KRÜGER SHOWCASE NEW HARDWOOD FURNITURE  
FROM A VISIONARY DANISH ARCHITECT

Born in 1931, Hans Bølling has had a trailblazing career in architecture and design that began in the 1950s. Although he has been responsible for many iconic Danish designs over the decades, he has never before created a lounge chair – until today.

Developed in collaboration with family-owned and self-producing Danish design company Brdr. Krüger and the American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC), Bølling's first lounge chair makes its global debut with a special exhibition at 3daysofdesign in Copenhagen this June.

“I am extremely proud to be able to present three new pieces of furniture that I feel represent my work. I want to convey pure architectural lines and details in my design, which together create human connections and a breeding ground for joy and good living.”

– Hans Bølling

Titled the Home of Hans Bølling, the exhibition will feature the lounge chair alongside two other new Bølling designs – a stool and a coffee table, both inspired by his classic Tray Table design from 1963. The three furniture pieces have been crafted from three under-used American hardwood species, selected for their combination of sustainability, durability and textured beauty: red oak, cherry, and maple.

“This is a particularly exciting project for AHEC, as it will bring together a very relevant message – the need to expand our timber choices to be truly sustainable, highlighting three high-performing and beautiful woods which are not currently being widely used – and the legacy of craftsmanship and timber knowledge of the Danish design sector. It is a collaboration with two partners with whom we share a love for wood and sustainability; iconic designer/architect Hans Bølling and powerhouse of Danish craftsmanship Brdr. Krüger.”

– David Venables, European director of AHEC

Now in his 90s, Hans Bølling has been developing the three pieces at his home north of Copenhagen over several years, refining the designs through a series of sketches and models until achieving the final product.



“Bølling has a unique eye for the structural and well proportioned. In between the strict lines he manages to infuse subtle layers of details and honest solutions, which make his design compelling and user-friendly. He is a master of emotional simplicity, and that makes his design timeless. We are pleased to collaborate with AHEC and inspire the use of alternative wood species that are not subject to overconsumption. Current global events have shown us all, that resources are not something to be taken for granted, and that change is needed.”

– Jonas Krüger, Creative Director and co-owner of Brdr. Krüger

Curated and set-designed by Danish designer Sara Martinsen, the Home of Hans Bølling will offer visitors a striking insight into Bølling’s life and creative process, as well as showcasing the strength, character and versatility of the three renewable hardwoods as design materials. To accompany Bølling’s furniture, Martinsen has created a series of bespoke art pieces using the same American hardwoods. The artworks take their inspiration from the circle – the shape that defines both Bølling’s original Tray Table and his new works, and which has come to represent sustainability and responsible manufacture.

“Bølling’s design is functional in its essence and there are no needless materials or details. It is understated elegance – a way of designing that translates to ‘omhyggelig’ in Danish. To combine Hans Bølling’s design and the three under-used wood species is therefore a perfect match. We all need to open our eyes to other materials and consumption habits so we can act more responsibly.”

– Sara Martinsen, curator

The Home of Hans Bølling will be presented in Brdr. Krüger’s showroom in the heart of Copenhagen for 3daysofdesign on 15–18 June 2022.

For more information and images, please contact [k@cphdesignagency.dk](mailto:k@cphdesignagency.dk) or [a@cphdesignagency.dk](mailto:a@cphdesignagency.dk)



The Home of Hans Bølling  
 Brdr. Krüger Showroom  
 Bredgade 28  
 1260 Copenhagen

15–18 June 2022  
 Opening hours (TBC)

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#### AMERICAN HARDWOOD EXPORT COUNCIL (AHEC)

For over 30 years the American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) has been at the forefront of wood promotion in Europe, successfully building a distinctive and creative brand for US hardwoods. AHEC's support for creative design projects such as Discovered, Designposts and Connected for the London Design Festival demonstrate the performance potential of these sustainable materials and provide valuable inspiration.

AHEC has pioneered the modelling of environmental Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) for hardwoods, an approach that has since been adopted by other industries. LCA measures a number of impacts: primary energy demand (from renewable and non-renewable resources); global-warming potential; acidification potential; eutrophication potential; and photochemical ozone-creation potential.

[www.americanhardwood.org](http://www.americanhardwood.org)  
[@ahec\\_europe](https://www.instagram.com/ahec_europe)

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#### HANS BØLLING

One of the greats of mid-century design, Hans Bølling was born in 1931 and graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts' School of Architecture in 1960. Alongside a body of work encompassing everything from town halls and private residences to playful wooden figures, Bølling's most famous contribution to the golden era of Danish furniture from the mid-20th century is the iconic Tray Table from 1963, which has been continuously produced at Brdr. Krüger's wood workshop ever since.

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BRDR. KRÜGER

Founded as a woodturning workshop in 1886 by brothers Theodor and Ferdinand Krüger, today Brdr Krüger is a self-producing design company, whose furniture is exclusively produced in Denmark. The commitment to craftsmanship has been nurtured by the Krüger family for five generations, ensuring the same high quality in every piece that leaves the workshop.

Brdr. Krüger's design DNA is born of the aesthetics of the mid-century Danish modern movement, reinterpreted for a contemporary



audience. With a design philosophy that encourages originality, honesty and playfulness, Brdr. Krüger seeks to bring a new turn on tradition, in close creative partnership with prominent designers and architects of the times.

[brdr-kruger.com](http://brdr-kruger.com)  
[@brdrkruger](https://www.instagram.com/brdrkruger)

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SARA MARTINSEN

Finding inspiration in the relationship between nature and human beings, Sara Martinsen is a Danish designer and artist working with natural materials such as wood and plant fibre. She believes that our knowledge of materials become diluted over time as we have become distanced from the source of the materials we consume, In response, she deploys natural materials to encourage the viewer to experience and enjoy their inherent characteristics, connect with their senses and remember that good materials take time to grow – and should be valued accordingly.

[saramartinsen.com](http://saramartinsen.com)  
[@frk\\_vinthermartinsen](https://www.instagram.com/frk_vinthermartinsen)

THE HARDWOODS

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American red oak (*Quercus rubra*)

Warm, grainy, tough and bendy.

Reaching a height of 21m, with a trunk diameter of 1m, red oak is the most abundant species in America's hardwood forests. Named for the colour of its leaves in the fall, this classic oak wood has a light brown sapwood, and a heartwood characterised by attractive warm reddish-pink tones. Red oak is strong, straight grained, coarse-textured and distinctive. Its porosity makes it a premium wood for bending and staining.

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American maple (*Acer saccharum*, *Acer nigrum*, *Acer rubrum*)

Light, fine, hard and incandescent.

A close cousin of European maple and sycamore, American maple can reach heights of 23–27m, with a trunk diameter of 75cm. This project uses two botanical subspecies, hard and soft maple, which share similar characteristics and are both relatively abundant. Hard maple is a cold-climate species favouring the northern states, whereas soft maples grow more widely across the mixed hardwood forests of the eastern United States. Both hard and soft maple produce syrup.

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American cherry (*Prunus serotina*)

Rich, smooth, vibrant and flexible.

A medium-size tree, reaching a height of around 20m, cherry has a relatively short rotation, taking less time to mature than other hardwoods. The narrow sapwood is a light pinkish colour, while the heartwood varies from rich red to reddish brown, and darkens on exposure to light. American cherry had a long period of popularity in furniture making; it became less popular but is on the verge of a revival.



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