

## Designs for life The unpredictable world of Anderssen & Voll



From left: Espen Voll and Torbjørn Anderssen. Photograph courtesy of Anderssen & Voll.

Torbjørn Anderssen and Espen Voll have been quietly steering the Scandinavian design scene for almost three decades. As Anderssen & Voll, they are one of the most accomplished design studios in Norway, the go-to collaborators for revered

design brands including the likes of TAKT, Muuto, Magis, &Tradition, Lapalma, Kvadrat, Audo and many more.

The two designers founded their eponymous studio in 2009, but the story of their collaboration begins much earlier. After graduating from their studies – Torbjørn from Bergen Academy of Art and Design and Espen from the Oslo National Academy of the Art – in 2000, the pair co-founded Norway Says, a global platform to celebrate the group of designers shaping what became known as 'New Nordic Design', which was instrumental in bringing the burgeoning Norwegian design scene to international attention.

Today, Anderssen & Voll operates out of the duo's Oslo studio, where they pursue a consciously non-dogmatic approach to designing products, lighting, textiles and furniture. Rather than falling into defined styles or presets, they strive to cultivate a sense of freedom and unpredictability, letting each design go its own way, live its own life. With Anderssen & Voll, there is never a set formula.

*"We try to act on clear ideas – and when the idea is clear the object becomes clear."*

– Torbjørn Anderssen, co-founder, Anderssen & Voll

From sofas to side tables, wood burners to woven fabrics, Anderssen & Voll's designs are invariably unique, but connected by the beauty of their expression, and the sustainability thinking behind them.

Today, their products are increasingly designed for disassembly and ease of user repair, and constructed from non-toxic natural materials, using transparent and accountable supply chains. These considerations also inform Anderssen & Voll's own in-house homewares brand, Nedre Foss, through which they produce and sell sustainable, longevity-led products from a hand-picked selection of designers, alongside their own work.

## Anderssen & Voll in 2024

The year ahead is a typically busy one for the studio, with a host of major brand collaborations and new products set to come to fruition over the course of 2024. To get us started, here are two new pieces set to launch with &Tradition:

## Ville for &Tradition

Global launch, 1 February 2024



Image courtesy of &Tradition

Anderssen & Voll's first outdoor-furniture collection for &Tradition began with the first sketch of the lounge chair – a curvy, relaxed seat 'bouncing off' a rigid, angular steel frame, giving a strong and clear distinction between the support and the supported.

The collection includes a dining table, benches, and stackable dining chairs. The transitions between the chair's legs and horizontal side rail are reflected in the benches and tabletop – a design motif that unites the collection. The sturdy steel structures of the tables and benches are topped with light teak boards, as are the armrests of the Ville lounge chair, which introduce a touch of warmth, both metaphorically and literally, as wood reflects the temperature of the body much more closely than steel.

Developed through a process of 1:1 modelling and refinement in the Anderssen & Voll studio, the final Ville designs are being launched by &Tradition in February. The material and colour palette have been consciously chosen to complement the hues and shades of the soil, grass and foliage with which they are likely to be surrounded.

*“For the seat and back we were looking for a construction that would offer flexibility and support – something that would lend itself to the temperature of your body rather than the climate. Wood for the armrests – like a firm and warm handshake.”*

– Espen Voll, co-founder, Anderssen & Voll

## Allwood for &Tradition

Global launch, 1 February 2024

Copenhagen event, 8 February 2024



Image courtesy of &Tradition

With Allwood, Anderssen & Voll set out to create a light and comfortable stacking chair that was made, as the name suggests, entirely from wood. Its form contains all the traditional constructive elements of a wooden chair, but shifted around and pushed to the edge of caricature to create a contemporary expression.

It is a chair full of contrasts; soft sheets of plywood set against the rigid form of the frame, slim rails on the sides juxtaposed with tall rails at the front and, most notably, the rear – which graphically unites the frame and backrest to define the chair's distinctive identity.

Allwood's material combination of laminated wood, plywood and solid wood makes it both sturdy and lightweight – essential traits in a stackable chair – while a delicately contoured seat and backrest ensure it comfortably fits the shape of the body. Fusing traditional craft and advanced manufacturing technology, the chair's construction brings together a number of production techniques, such as lamination and CNC milling, with a deep understanding of, and appreciation for, wood as a material.

*“Wood is truly sustainable. Imagine a material created by nature from soil, water, air and sunlight? Quite magical! Wood has a great touch and brings warmth to any interior. As Scandinavians, it is hard for us to envision a home with no wood.”*

– Torbjørn Anderssen, co-founder, Anderssen & Voll

## Notes to editors

See more of Anderssen & Voll's work at [anderssen-voll.com](https://anderssen-voll.com).

For more information about Anderssen & Voll, and to stay updated about their forthcoming launches, contact [AV@zetteler.co.uk](mailto:AV@zetteler.co.uk)

For more information about &Tradition and their upcoming launches, please contact [press@andtradition.com](mailto:press@andtradition.com)

### **Anderssen & Voll**

Anderssen & Voll is an Oslo-based design studio run by designers Torbjørn Anderssen and Espen Voll. Working with some of Europe's most renowned international brands, they take a non-dogmatic approach to design, resulting in objects of beauty and relevance. Their output spans furniture, lighting, home accessories and textile design for the likes of TAKT, Muuto, &Tradition and Audo, as well as their own in-house sustainable homeware brand, Nedre Foss.

[anderssen-voll.com](https://anderssen-voll.com)

### **&Tradition**

Founded in 2010 in Copenhagen, &Tradition is an international brand, built on a Danish legacy of craftsmanship and design. We tell stories with originality. Whether our starting point is new or re-issued, we are passionate about designing the classics of tomorrow. We believe in empowering our employees and network of creatives, designers and partners to take an active part in our journey as a brand. With the planet and the people at the core, we strive to always act conscientiously.

[andtradition.com](https://andtradition.com)