



Head of the in-house creative agency at watchmaker Nomos Glashütte, Braun began his career as a carpenter before moving into industrial design. He set up his own studio in Berlin in 2006, where he worked on lighting and furniture products, before joining Nomos in 2013 and launching his first watch, the Metro, which has since won a number of global awards. Braun says: 'I want to design things so that they seem familiar to people, even though they are new.'

### HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN BERLIN?

'Although I'm originally from Hanover, I've been living here for 18 years. My apartment is in Kreuzberg – an area I love for its alternative, international scene, with bars such as Würgeengel and arthouse cinemas like FSK. The whole neighbourhood has a Turkish and Arabic vibe.'

# WHICH IS YOUR FAVOURITE TIME OF YEAR HERE?

'May and June, just as summer is starting. There are lots of cultural events going on, including DMY International Design Festival and the Gallery Weekend; everybody moves out onto the streets to sit in front of cafés and bars.'

# **OUT-OF-TOWN ESCAPE?**

'A visit to Teufelsberg, with the old US Army base at the top of the hill, and then going for a swim in the Teufelssee lake. It's only a short drive from central Berlin so it's easy to do in a day.'



FRANCOIS MORELLET'S 'NEONS 3D'
AT GALLERY WEEKEND

MINIMATIK IN STAINLESS

STEEL, £2,600, **NOMOS GLASHÜTTE**, AS BEFORE

'I find the cultural life of Berlin has a big impact on my work – particularly institutions including the Museum der Dinge, Bauhaus-Archiv and Technik Museum. They're places I often visit before starting a new project, such as my first timepiece. And the city's vibrant contemporary-art scene definitely has an influence, especially during the annual Gallery Weekend – it's hard not to let all the incredible creativity soak in.'

## FAVOURITE LUNCH AND SUPPER PLACES?

'For lunch it's Markthalle 9 in Kreuzberg, which has a great atmosphere and serves delicious food. For dinner, I'd recommend Long March Canteen, which specialises in dim sum: steamed, grilled, fried – you name it. I love Chinese food when it's served authentically like this.'

#### TOP INSIDER TIPS?

'The best place for coffee is Five Elephant on Reichenberger Strasse. For a really good bookstore go to Do You Read Me?! on Auguststrasse, and Galerie König just has to be seen – especially the exhibition space in the old 1960s church. You'll also find beautiful vintage furniture at Original In Berlin on Karl-Marx-Allee.'

### ONE TO WATCH?

'Definitely the concept store Andreas Murkudis on Potsdamer Strasse. It has the best selection of fashion and accessories in the city, as well as the new C/O Berlin gallery, which recently relocated to Amerika Haus and shows the perfect mix of work by young up-and-coming photographers and established names including Annie Leibovitz and Peter Lindbergh.'

BELOW, DETAIL OF A DISPLAY AT THE MUSEUM DER DINGE





METRO 38 DATUM IN STAINLESS STEEL, £2,200, NOMOS GLASHÜTTE, AS BEFORE

> THE 'TIEFER SESSEL' CHAIR DESIGNED BY HERBERT HIRCHE AT THE MUSEUM DER DINGE

