



**„Creativity is in our DNA“:**

## **Berlin Tech-Start-Up BigRep Presents Innovative 3D Print Designs at SXSW**

*Whether a classic violin, a longboard or the "Ocke Stool", the Berlin-based start-up BigRep will showcase unusual products from its design lab at this year's South by Southwest conference and festival, demonstrating what is possible today with 3D printing.*

**Berlin / Austin, 9. March 2017:** At first glance, the violin looks like a classic concert instrument, white with a typical curvy shape. Running the bow over the strings, only an expert could tell you that the notes being played are not being produced from a traditional wooden instrument. This violin is made of high-grade plastic and was 3D printed by the Berlin tech start-up BigRep on their "BigRep One", the largest serial 3D printer in the world.

"3D printing offers a low-cost but high-quality solution for beginners starting to learn to play an instrument, or for musicians who are not yet able to afford an expensive original, or who perhaps want to try out a variety of different musical instruments," explains René Gurka, CEO of the company founded in 2014 amid Berlin's growing start-up scene.

The 3D printed violin is just one of several innovative product examples from the BigRep design lab which will be shown at this year's South by Southwest® (SXWS) in Austin, Texas. Also included is the "Ocke Stool", an extremely durable piece of furniture created in one print from a complex design but without the use of additional materials. On display is also a longboard that can serve as a prototype for skateboard manufacturing. All these products demonstrate the wide range of possibilities for creativity and innovation in 3D printing. This potential reaches beyond the traditional manufacturing industries into the creative sector, especially architects, designers and artists.

With the "BigRep One", designed for large-format objects, or its more compact version the "BigRep Studio", digital designs can be translated into prototypes or new products in a short time-frame with a high degree of precision and cost-effectivity.

"With our powerful high-tech printers, we make the possibilities of large-scale 3D printing accessible to even smaller companies and individuals," says René Gurka, explaining the vision of the young engineering company.

A major success factor of BigRep is the interdisciplinary work in the team. The in-house innovation department "NOWlab" brings industrial designers together with engineers and software developers to create unique machines, materials and products and to outline the 3D printing applications of the future.

BigRep works closely together with strategic partners from industry, research, design and art, resulting in spectacular objects and projects. For example, "Monument for the 308": the large-scale chicken skeleton printed in 3D by BigRep in collaboration with the Berlin artist Andreas Greiner, exhibited as part of an installation in the Berlinische Galerie in 2016.

"Creativity is firmly anchored in our founding DNA," says René Gurka, explaining the extraordinarily innovative spirit of BigRep. "Especially in our work to define the future of this industry, such as our development of fully automated continuous 3D printing, we focus on crossing boundaries and positioning ourselves as a



pioneer and leader in the market. SXSW is a home game for BigRep in two ways: it brings together creative minds from a wide range of industries and presents current trends in the fields of technology and hardware; the ideal environment for us.”

#### **BigRep at SXSW:**

Meet us at the „Try out Lab“ at the German Haus at SXSW from 11-13. March 2017 (German Haus: Barracuda, 611 E 7th Street, Austin, TX 78701)

#### **About BigRep**

BigRep is a technology start-up with its headquarter in Berlin and offices in New York and Singapore. Founded in 2014, it has become a market and technology leader in large-scale, serial 3D printing in just three years and has set itself the goal of changing the design, prototyping and industrial production of 3D printers from the ground up. With a volume of more than 1m<sup>3</sup>, the BigRep ONE is currently the largest FFF printer (Fused Filament Fabrication) available on the market and thus closes the gap between 3D printers used in private enterprise or in industrial applications. The smaller printer, the BigRep Studio, was introduced in 2016 and complements the company's product portfolio. The growing team of engineers, machine builders and other staff at BigRep numbers over 60 employees from twelve nations that not only contribute to the emergence of the "machine builder of the future", but also work with passion to achieve the next industrial revolution.

#### **BigRep Videos**

- „Ocke Stool“ <https://youtu.be/L3Zixtf1ITY>
- „Monument for the 308“ <https://youtu.be/oHn58-0hfog>

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