

Eccentric wood

By Marie Le Fort

World-class designers are offering their own interpretation of the noble material



Siso's Chair (left)

Lebanese craftsman Joy el Khoury creates one-of-a-kind wood furnishings under the label Wood of Joy. His handmade work ranges from tables and shelves to chairs and benches, including Siso's Chair. Carved out of Cilician cedar wood, this slanted chair, like other El Khoury items, is made with utter respect for the environment, using recycled wood and producing no industrial waste.

Visit www.woodofjoy.com



Wrong Woods (left)

Designer Sebastien Wrong and artist Richards Woods teamed up to create a range of furniture using a colorful printed laminate to replicate wood and featuring surfaces with cartoon graphics. The new collection includes cabinets, storage pieces and printed rugs that mimic stacks of wood dispersed on the floor.

Visit www.establishedandsons.com/forchehtml/Designer-RichardWoods-WrongWoods/#1



Fallen Tree (above)

Created by young designer Benjamin Graindorge, the Fallen Tree bench, presented at Galerie Ymer & Malta, is both poetic and surreal. Set horizontally, the sculpted oak is turned into a bench using two transparent legs. "The Fallen Tree bench intends to reveal the wood's DNA, to express its deepest nature and primal identity," says Graindorge.

Visit www.ymeretmalta.com/fallentree-benjamin-graindorge



Tonus Stool (left)

Carving wood like an expert craftsman, Dutch designer Aldo Bakker has created the distinctive Tonus Stool, made out of a solid block of oak. Part of Bakker's Wood Collection, the Tonus Stool was recently acquired by the Vitra Design Museum in Germany as part of the establishment's permanent collection.

Visit www.aldobakker.com/home.php

Gradient Mashrabiya (right)

Commissioned by Carwan Gallery, the new Gradient Mashrabiya was thought up by Viennese design studio mischer'traxler, who worked hand-in-hand with Lebanese woodworkers to redefine the traditional *musharrabiyas*, the delicate wooden window screens ubiquitous in Middle Eastern architecture. The result is a sideboard table composed of a network of more than 650 distinct pieces of manually carved wood.

Visit mischertraxler.com



Scrapwood Wallpaper (left)

Best known for recycling off-cuts of wood to create cabinets and chairs, Dutch designer Piet Hein Eek has recently experimented further, this time with wallpaper. Named Scrapwood Wallpaper, his new work consists of rustic-looking wallpaper, available in different widths and colors, and easily applied on large surfaces. "It has much more character and visual interest than a smooth wall," the designer explains, "and you can't really tell it's not wood."

Visit www.pietheineek.nl/en/collection/scrapwood-wallpaper