

SIDE GALLERY

TADEAS PODRACKY (1989 -)



Chair

From the series "The Metamorphosis"
Manufactured by Tadeas Podracky
Prague, 2020
Mixed media, plastic, wood, foam,
paint, textile, foam, sawdust

Measurements

95 cm x 90 cm x 95 cm
37,40 in x 35,43 in x 37,40 in

Concept

The Metamorphosis collection seeks to enhance the emotional bond to our surrounding environment. During the Coronavirus outbreak Podracký returned to Prague his home town and spent a couple of months in a quarantine in his studio there. Access to materials was minimal but he turned this handicap into a research opportunity and started to work only with material found around the studio or that were easy to access, such as wood, textiles, trash such as old car parts, old ceramic pieces or broken glass sheets. Tadeáš realized that these materials had a certain authenticity and so began reevaluating the way he approached the materiality, challenging himself to dis-acknowledge deeply rooted principles of formal design, interrupting established practices of conventional construction methods. The designer was seeking the authenticity of expression and changed his design methodology based on the intuitive use of materials and emotional decisions regarding structure, shape and the construction process. The aim was to let the object grow through his hands by gluing and combining different elements, reminiscent of the process of a bird weaving its nest. This approach allowed him complete freedom, resulting in an unpredictable outcome depending only on authentic personal expression.

Biography

Tadeas Podracky (b. 1989, Czech Republic) is an experimental designer who is seeking authenticity in our immediate surroundings. Through material research, questioning craft heritage, and strong hands-on making, Podracky proposes a new methodology, a reformulated approach to design, based on exploring expression, destruction, and accenting individuality.

Whether it is an object or space, he is always looking for a way to break down the established principles of "good" design; in order to bring new possibilities and emphasize the multi-layered identities of the contemporary individual.

Tadeas Podracky went through the design and fine art academic training. He received a MA at the Academy of Art Architecture and Design in Prague; completed study internships in the Fine Art studio at the School of Visual Arts (New York) and in the Monumental Sculpture studio at the Academy of Fine Arts (Prague). After a period of independent practice, he obtained MA in Contextual Design from the Design Academy Eindhoven.

His work won the AD design award and CGD award and has been internationally exhibited, notably Design Miami Basel, FOG San Francisco, Maison et Objet Paris, Mudac museum Lausanne, Designblok Prague, Salone del Mobile Milano, London design festival, Dutch Design Week. Podracky was invited as a guest designer to several design residencies, Design Biennial (Venice), Fellowship in Creative Glass Center of America at WheatonArts (USA), and FROM YUHANG RONG DESIGN LIBRARY (China).