

SIDE GALLERY

MAC COLLINS



Table, Set of 4 stools and Dominoes "Uncoded"

Manufactured by Mac Collins
Newcastle, UK, 2023
Oak wood, dye, wax

Measurements

Table
75 x 75 x 72h cm
29,6 x 29,6 x 28,4h in

Stools
38 x 42 x 56h cm
15 x 16,5 x 22,1h in

Dominoes (28 p.)
5,5 x 2,8 x 1h cm
2,2 x 1,1 x 0,4h in

Exhibition

Global Tools, Side Gallery, Barcelona

Concept

"Uncoded", previously called "Open Code", was the design of a domino table with which Mac Collins participated in the second edition of Harewood Biennial 2022 (26 March 2022 - 29 August 2022). The exhibition was entitled "Radical Acts: Why Craft Matters" and aimed to explore how craft can impact social change and address political issues. It has now been produced for Side Gallery, as part of the group exhibition "Global Tools".

The game has strong roots in Jamaican culture and was intended to confront the heritage of the house and the legacy of slavery. Edwin Lascelles amassed his fortune in the 18th century through the sugar and transatlantic slave trade in the West Indies, an income which funded the construction of Harewood House. The dominoes game -still widely played by the Jamaican community in Nottingham- was perfectly staged as the protagonist of the games room, where the family who profited from the exploitation of the slaves, used to retire after dinner.

Biography

Mac Collins (b. Nottingham, 1995) is a Nottingham -and Newcastle-based designer whose narrative-rich work draws on a range of references, from mid-century European pieces to his own Afro-Caribbean roots. Growing up in Nottingham, Collins was always drawing and filling drawers with miniature collections of rocks, magnets, and the rubber-coated metal balls salvaged from inside old computer mice. He moved on to graffiti, illustration, and live art performances as a teenager, and became interested in sculpture and three-dimensional forms while completing a one-year, multidisciplinary arts program after high school. At university, he developed the technical side of his skill set, realising that making objects interested him just as much as designing them.