

Wonder wood

By Marie Le Fort

The core material is used in various new design items



Wood, the building material that best exudes life and nobility, is making a grand entrance onto the design stage. Some of the globe's edgiest objects and furniture designers have produced pieces either entirely made of wood or that feature wood as an essential part of the design.

Studio Juju (left)

Singapore-based design firm Studio Juju have created a series of chairs and lighting fixtures using wood. Their star piece, the Platypus Chair, features an exaggerated arm, giving users extra space for their everyday activities.

Visit studio-juju.com



Russell Pinch (left)

Russell Pinch unveiled his seven new wooden furniture pieces last September. The pieces include Pontus, a generously proportioned partner desk combining walnut and oak, and Clyde, a three-legged side table with a solid wood top and a triangular shelf below.

Visit www.pinchdesign.com

TAF Architects (above)

Made entirely out of pine wood, TAF Architects' Wood Lamp seems to come straight out of a children's game. According to TAF Architects: "By using very simple methods, we have been able to give Wood Lamp a very honest and iconic expression."

Visit www.muuto.com



Nina Tolstrup (left)

Launched during last year's London Design Festival, the Mobile Outdoor Kitchen by Nina Tolstrup for Studiomama comes complete with preparation areas and an oven built out of clear wood and steel. During the Christmas season, Tolstrup's revised mobile Christmas cart served freshly baked cookies, mince pies and warm drinks throughout the day at London's Andaz Hotel.

Visit www.studiomama.com

Marco Dessi (right)

Marco Dessi sought to reinterpret the traditional Viennese chairs in a contemporary way. The result? His stackable Prater Chair. Made out of birch plywood with black phenolic resin glue between its layers, the chair has an undeniably strong graphic impact.

Visit www.richard-lampert.de



Seongyong Lee (left)

Seongyong Lee's wooden Plytube stool weighs in at a mere 820 grams. Inspired by standard cardboard tubing, the innovative stool showcases deftly crafted veneers and stacked laminations.

Visit www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk/pdpac/index_7.htm