**MATTHEW PARÉ – PETREL FURNITURE**

Matthew Paré makes furniture marked by uncompromising quality and refined craftsmanship, with particular focus on hand and tool. He creates understated work with restrained detailing that shows off the natural beauty of native wood and an honest integrity in making.

Paré is interested in the interplay between function and form, how a decision on a simple curve or chisel-worked edge can make a strong impact on the function and feeling of a piece. His work is intended to sit in harmony with other objects within a room, adding to the overall feel, and yet having a depth of detail that fascinates and gives pleasure as it is used.

Paré works exclusively with British timbers, hand selecting wood and often knowing the location of each tree used. He is fascinated by the idea that a piece of furniture in your home can reflect the material and physical reality of the landscape around you.

A large part of Paré‘s work is inspired by the idea of journey. He is interested in the change in material through time and in designing a piece that will develop throughout its life. He creates pieces with a depth of detail and craftsmanship which continue to spark interest and curiosity over time.

Learning and developing his skills as a craftsman and designer is part of Paré’s journey and he continues to explore themes around hand-shaped curved edges, weaving, chip carving and the use of end grain.

Throughout his practice he has developed relationships with makers across disciplines to produce limited edition pieces. Collaborations include work with potter Chris Keenan, weaver Emily Mackey and metal artist Rebecca Gouldson.

**Born**  1975, Derbyshire

**Education**

2013 Furniture making and design, John Lloyd Fine Furniture School, East Sussex

1998 BA Film, Television and Radio Studies, Staffordshire University

**Awards**

2017 New Year’s Honours List, Furniture, The English Home magazine

2016 Commendation: Godin Bench, The Furniture Makers’ Company

**Selected Exhibitions**

2019 Re:Collections, Bluecoat Display Centre, Liverpool

2018 Worked Surface, Jointure Studios, Ditchling, East Sussex

2017 Functional Beauty, Jointure Studios, Ditchling, East Sussex

2016 Celebration of Craftsmanship and Design (CCD), Thurstone Gallery, Cheltenham

 CCD Selection, Craft Central, Clerkenwell, London

**Selected Publications**

2017 The English Home magazine, January, p.109

Country Living, Modern Rustic, issue 8, p.200-01

**Selected Collections**

Work held internationally in private collections