

SANDY BUCHANAN

Sandy or Sand to his friends and family is a contemporary furniture maker and Sculptor with a workshop in SE London, where he produces furniture and sculptural pieces for private clients, interior designers and galleries.

Previous to setting up his practice, Sand had a 10 year career in the Oil & Gas E&P sector working around the world as a Geoscientist. He holds a BSc and MSc in Geoscience. After several redundancies, a general dislike for big corporate politics and an unshakeable disgust at what the sector was doing, Sandy turned to making and craft in the pursuit of meaningful work.

His work is rooted in a lifelong fascination of how things are constructed, the techniques used and the behaviour of materials. The aesthetic and attention to craftsmanship is heavily influenced by a childhood growing up in Hong Kong, drawing on Chinese and Japanese forms while maintaining a clean and contemporary feel. Each piece is thoughtfully created and embraces the founding concept of his practice, to produce meaningful work that will last.

Sand Buchanan furniture is characterised by clean lines with subtle details in contrasting materials, textures and exposed joinery designed to draw the eye. Natural irregularities and defects in the timber are inlaid to create a feature, celebrating the fallen tree and an honesty and truth to the material. The ultimate contrast between finding a beauty in the imperfect and in the precision of craftsmanship.

Sandy's current body of sculptural work focuses on crises affecting humanity, drawing on his personal experiences with issues such as mental health and climate change. Using offcuts from his furniture making, the pieces draw the viewer in with a sense of playfulness but hold you with an altogether more serious meaning. Each exhibit the same craftsmanship and celebration of fallen timber that can be found in his furniture pieces.

All work is exclusively made from fallen timber, sourced from the British Isles and whenever possible, local to Sandy's workshop. His previous career has cemented a commitment to environmental awareness and a need for transparency in everything that he does, from sourcing local timber destined for the chipper to re-investing profits into tree planting across the UK.

EDUCATION

2008 - 2016 Geoscientist | Exploration | Oil & Gas

2007 -2008 Imperial College London | MSc Geoscience

2003 -2007 Edinburgh University | BSc Geology

EXHIBITIONS

2023



Future Icons Selects | London Craft Week | Bargehouse Galleries
Collect | Somerset House | Flow Gallery
Chaiya Art Awards | Bargehouse Galleries

2022

Oxmarket Open | Oxmarket Contemporary

2021

Planted Cities | Kings Cross

London Art Biennale | Old Chelsea Town Hall

2020

Rising Stars | New Ashgate Gallery

2019

New Designers One Year In | Business Design Centre

Wildlife Artist of the Year | Mall Galleries

TALKS

Craft your Wellbeing | New Designers | 06-22

Emerging Talent | Design Talk | Top Drawer | 03-20

PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

Furniture & Cabinetmaking | Issue 304

Crafts Magazine | 02-22

The Design RE:Source | Podcast | 11-21

We Are Makers Ed 2 | 04-21

Label Magazine | 12-20

Modern Rustic | 11-20

Material Source | 06-20

AWARDS

Maker of the Year | World Category | Highly Commended | 2021

Crafts Council Hothouse | Selected Maker | 2020

Wildlife Artist of the Year | Finalist | 2019

TEACHING

Making Wooden Furniture with Traditional Joinery | Domestika

DIRECTORIES

Homo Faber Guide
Crafts Council Directory