

PRESS RELEASE: 'For Immediate Release'

High resolution imagery will be available from August 2022.

Béton Brut presents 'Paper' by David Horan

'Paper' is the inaugural furniture and lighting collection of London-based designer **David Horan**.

'Paper', designed exclusively with Béton Brut gallery, sees Horan as a modern *decoupeur*, layering handmade Japanese paper to create a new applied 'vegan vellum'.

Informed by the French craft traditions of decoupage and Japanese Mingei movement, Horan wraps a series of original works – seating, a coffee table and a screen, **launched for LDF in Gallery 3, at 4 Cromwell Place 20 – 25 September.**

Horan grounds the magic of 'Paper' in forms as precise as they are architectonic. The geometries contain harmony in ratio. Evoking Deco and Classical.

'Paper' was conceived via rigorous material experimentation in Horan's London workshop. It was an exercise in de-composition and re-composition – of ripping it up, and starting again.'

For the 'Vellum' coffee table, screen and lounge chairs, Horan experimented with a combination of Kozuki-Mingeshi paper, lacquering it to a mirror finish or sealed matte.

The 'Dragon Skin' armchairs and daybed, left raw to the eye, are made from vintage Sekishu, a Unesco-heritage kozo, reclaimed from the giant dragons of *Kagura* dance-theatre.

Horan worked with Mineo Kato from Japan Fine Papers in Hackney to source the washi. From the discards of the dragon's Orochi-gami skin, remnants are restored piece-by-piece by the workshop of Kajigase Takashi, before Horan takes it through a final metamorphosis.

Béton Brut director Sophie Pearce says: "Béton Brut is proud to present David Horan's first solo collection. The idea for 'Paper' sprung from a goatskin parchment cabinet by Aldo Tura in Béton Brut's collection. We have worked closely together since its conception. The result is a series of timeless forms in a moon-like skin.

David Horan says: "I wanted to adapt the effect I witnessed. From afar, you admire the simple form of the piece. But up close, you level in on the exquisite detail of the surface. I found in my experiments with layering handmade paper, I was able to achieve a vellum effect without the use of animal products."

- ENDS -

Biographies

David Horan (born in Dublin, 1982) is a multidisciplinary designer and manufacturer based in London. A Master of Arts in Design Products from the Royal College of Art 2013, he cut his cloth with London-designers Faye Toogood and Michael Anastassiades, before opening his own studio in 2021.

David Horan's practice springs first and foremost from rigorous material research. He approaches each 'material project' in his London workshop via sampling and experimentation before geometries evolve. 'Paper' is his first solo collection and is exclusive to Béton Brut gallery.

Béton Brut presents rare, design-led furniture from Europe and Japan. The collection, drawn from over a century of design, coheres around functional art and sculptural forms.

All pieces, sourced by design dealer Sophie Pearce, are available for purchase and hire. With a permanent studio in Hackney Wick, the gallery is currently in residence at Paul Smith, Albemarle Street, London.

For further information please contact:

Sophie Pearce - Founder of Béton Brut

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Notes to Editors:

High res editorial photography of the collection will be available from mid-August. To be sent them please email sophie@betonbrut.co.uk

Portraits of David Horan working on the development of 'Paper' in his studio are available now [here](#) in the press pack, credit Genevieve Lutkin.

Show details:

Address: Gallery 3 at 4 Cromwell Pl, South Kensington, London SW7 2JE

Open to the public: 20-25 September 2022.

Tuesday, preview by invitation

Wednesday to Saturday 10-6

Sunday 10-4

Private view & press preview:

As members of the press, you are warmly welcomed to our preview event.

Please RSVP by email sophie@betonbrut.co.uk

Private view, by invitation only. Tuesday 20 September, from 6pm