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SIT ON THIS: STUDIO ART FURNITURE AND DESIGN AT SOFA CHICAGO 2010 NOV. 5 – 7 AT NAVY PIER

CHICAGO — The Chicago-based The Art Fair Company presents two art fairs under one roof at Chicago's historic Navy Pier Friday, Nov. 5 – Sunday, Nov. 7, 2010. For the first time, The Intuit Show of Folk & Outsider Art will share center stage in Festival Hall with Chicago's much-anticipated art fair mainstay, SOFA CHICAGO, the 17th Annual International Sculpture Objects & Functional Art Fair.

On track with last year, **SOFA CHICAGO 2010** will feature 80 art galleries and dealers from 10 countries.

"SOFA CHICAGO attendees have the unique opportunity to become a part of the creative process by selecting a wide array of studio art furniture created by both world-renowned masters and cutting edge up-and-coming designers," says The Art Fair Company President and SOFA Founder Mark Lyman. "By purchasing functional furniture at SOFA and bringing these utilitarian masterpieces into their homes and offices, attendees are, in a sense, creating their own worlds of art by utilizing the unique and creative worlds of art on display at SOFA CHICAGO."

Studio art furniture highlights at SOFA CHICAGO 2010 include:

Wexler Gallery of Philadelphia focuses on the interaction of contemporary design with traditional forms of craft. By showcasing innovative furniture and interior design work by talents such as **Brian Gladwell** (cardboard, dye, wood, veneer and shellac), **Alex Roskin** (bronze and rosewood), **Albert Paley** (metal), **Wendell Castle** (walnut, cherry, birch, fiberglass), **David Trubridge** and Belgian design company **Materialise.MGX** (lighting) alongside outstanding museum-quality glass pieces by master artists such as **Dale Chihuly**, **William Morris** and **Lino Taliapietra**, Wexler's booth at SOFA CHICAGO will recontextualize the craft object, validating its importance in today's art marketplace.



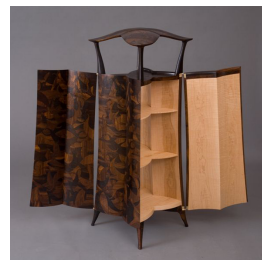
Wendell Castle
Morning Sun, Edition of 8, 2009
 gilded fiberglass, gold
 32 x 33.5 x 36"
 courtesy of Wexler Gallery and Barry Friedman Ltd.



Philipp Aduatz
Red Spoon Chair 2008
 edition of 12
 Galerie Suppan

2010 marks the first time ever that Vienna, Austria-based **Galerie Suppan Contemporary** will participate in SOFA, and they plan to bring the sleek and sexy work of up-and-coming sculptural object designer **Philipp Aduatz**. One outstanding exhibition object is the eye-catching "red spoon chair," a remarkable achievement in design, material and technique with the added bonus that it's completely functional as a seat.

Mendocino, California-based **William Zimmer Gallery** returns to SOFA CHICAGO with more than 30 years of experience in beautifying homes and landscapes with fine works by decorative artists from throughout the world. Zimmer plans to present works of contemporary furniture designed by artists such as **Brian Newell**, whose whimsical and elegant carved designs are the product of a remarkable journey from his hometown of Flint, Michigan to the outskirts of Tokyo and the California Coast; **Vivian Beer**, Cranbrook Academy of Art 2004 MFA graduate and Penland School of Crafts artist-in-residence; **Tai Lake**, whose work throughout the Pacific Northwest connects the craftsman to the long-term health of forests; **Michael Hurwitz**, who lends an Asian structural-design sensibility to work with materials such as marble, mosaics, stone, Damascus steel, wood and silk and rubbed, painted surfaces; Asheville, N.C.-based **Sylvie Rosenthal**, who formally studied traditional European woodworking at the Rochester Institute of Technology's School for American Crafts and whose process includes a unique combination of technique, experimentation, humor and play; and **David Ebner**, whose studio craft furniture has been commissioned and displayed in institutions such as the Museum of Fine Art in Boston, the Smithsonian International Collection of Fine Art and the Yale University Museum.



Brian Newell
Untitled Cabinet
 Jichumu wood
 60h x 30"w
 William Zimmer Gallery



Sam Maloof
Pedestal Table, mid 1960's
 del Mano Gallery

Los Angeles-based **del Mano Gallery** presents a number of iconic pieces by **Sam Maloof**, known throughout the world as the definitive master of studio furniture.

Ann Nathan Gallery of Chicago is showing ceramic furniture by Michael Gross that is very primitive in nature; they're well executed solid forms, and there's a lot of surface painting using clay slips. The gallery will also showcase steel cabinetry by **Jim Rose**, who borrows from the Shakers in terms of linear, simple design qualities, and in the last few years he has begun to assemble pieces incorporating found steel parts.



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SOFA CHICAGO is the longest continuously running art fair in Chicago, debuting at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers in 1994, with 58 exhibitors and 14,000 people attending. In 1995, SOFA CHICAGO moved to Festival Hall at Chicago's historic Navy Pier. Since then, this pioneering fair has been held annually in the fall at Navy Pier with an average of 85 dealers and 35,000 persons attending. Sales at the fair are estimated at 15 - 20 million dollars per show. Clients include museums, art advisors, interior designers and architects as well as both seasoned and new collectors.

What distinguishes SOFA art fairs in Chicago, New York and Santa Fe, NM from other top art events is their focus on 3-dimensional artworks that cross the boundaries of fine art, decorative art and design. SOFA is noted for its exceptional presentation, with an elite selection of international dealers presenting for sale one-of-a-kind masterworks in handsome, custom-designed gallery exhibits. SOFA is produced by The Art Fair Company of Chicago, Ill., who also produces SOFA NEW YORK and SOFA WEST: Santa Fe. SOFA CHICAGO is the largest of the three fairs. For more information please visit sofaexpo.com.

The Art Fair Company presents the 17th Annual SOFA CHICAGO 2010 + The Intuit Show of Folk and Outsider Art under one roof at Navy Pier's Festival Hall Nov. 5-7. This two-fair, three-day art event features sculptural objects and functional art; outsider, ethnographic non-traditional folk art and visionary art, plus special art exhibitions and art lectures. One general admission ticket of \$15 admits visitors to both fairs, related lecture series, special exhibits and events. \$25 three-day passes and discounted student, senior and group tickets are also available. Hours are Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. The public is also invited to the opening night preview, Thursday, Nov. 4 from 7-9 p.m. Preview tickets are \$50. For tickets or more information visit sofaexpo.com and outsiderfolkartfair.com.

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