

## PRESS RELEASE

### **The Yorkshire wood furniture makers sculpting their way to Clerkenwell**

Yorkshire furniture designers David Wilson and Charlotte Fitzpatrick are preparing to showcase a revolutionary new range of stools at Clerkenwell Design Week in May, each with an unusual organic shape that gives the appearance of sculpted wood.

David, Creative Director at Dovetailors, has mentored Charlotte, now Principal Designer, since she joined the company as a placement student.

Fast forward 8 years and the pair are now part of a 16-strong design and manufacturing business that is using computer software to push the boundaries of design.

This will be the first time Dovetailors has exhibited at Clerkenwell, almost two decades after David and his wife Emmanuelle opened their first furniture workshop in the Yorkshire Dales. David, Charlotte and the team will use the event to launch their latest sculptural design, which is available as a stool, bar stool and counter stool.

Taking design inspiration from nature, the stackable feature of the smallest stool in the range means it can be used as a single stool or side table or stacked to create an architectural feature and practical nest of seating or tables. The bar stool and counter stool versions have integrated wood footrests which give the appearance of a single, moulded piece of wood.

The stools have evolved steadily from Charlotte's early concept as a young student designer at Dovetailors, when she first had a vision for a stacking tripod stool, to today's contemporary sculptural statement piece. In between, Charlotte adapted the idea to create a set of tripod stacking chairs for Wakefield Cathedral, before exploring new potential for natural curves through the use of software, which took her and David in a completely unexpected design direction

Thanks to some of the latest CAD software, they were able to make the complex calculations needed to create the stool's flowing, organic shape.

David says: "This is a very different way of designing and is very much like sculpting with clay.

"The technology allows us to create flowing shapes that just wouldn't have been possible previously because of the highly complex mathematical calculations required.

"It's a perfect example of how ground-breaking CAD design software removes design limitations and opens up exciting possibilities for organic product shapes and innovative styles, letting us be as adventurous as we like as we mould the design."

Rather than this being a case of computers taking over from the craftsman, Charlotte says it is more about being able to achieve more.

“The computer can take us only so far,” explains Charlotte. “In fact, it has helped us design something that can be made more traditionally, with strong mortice and tenon jointing.”

The software also allowed Charlotte to experiment with extra features, like the recessed top on the smallest stool which means it can double up as a side table.

Charlotte says: “Without our knowledge of the design and manufacturing process, the technology is limited, because unless you add in that experience, to evolve the design, to plan how the components will be manufactured on our CNCs and built in our workshop, this product simply wouldn’t exist.”

David, a doctor of engineering, has always been an advocate of the craft and technology as a mutually beneficial partnership.

David says: “This is a fantastic example of technology facilitating creativity and craft. The shape would be almost impossible to create without a computer but a computer alone could never create something quite this extraordinary.”

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**Meet David, Charlotte and the team with their three versions of the sculptural tripod stool, on stand B14 in the British Collection zone of Clerkenwell Design Week. They will also be unveiling the rest of their sculptural design collection, which includes a dining table and benches.**

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**Notes for editors:**

**Link to images:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/lxm2yo0z83khnyqxsjkd/h?rlkey=9iljqimnvwkbcvyfm5s50d8s&dl=0>

**About Dovetailors**

- Dovetailors was founded by husband and wife team David Wilson and Emmanuelle Bastide Wilson.
- They opened their first workshop in Nidderdale in 2005 and now employ 16 people in a busy manufacturing unit in Leeds.
- As well as designing and making their own furniture, they manufacture wood components for high end furniture makers and take commissions from designers, architects, churches and other organisations.
- From small beginnings, Dovetailors has grown to be an innovative and unique furniture designer and manufacturer, working with cathedrals, historic houses and even making a ceremonial chair for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.
- Their workshop is equipped with three CNC machines and the latest CAD/CAM software.

- Dovetailors prides itself on developing its people and has a reputation for training the furniture designers of the future.

### **About the stool**

- Flowing organic shape
- Recessed seat which is ideal for use as a side table
- Stackable design which looks great as a set of three nesting tables
- Hand oiled to bring out the grain of the wood
- Robust mortice and tenon joints
- British made
- Innovative design
- Dual purpose functionality
- Ergonomic design
- Tripod counter and bar stool options with integrated wood foot rests
- Available in walnut or oak, hand oiled, or black stained wood.

### **Product description and price:**

The organic sculptured shape of the nesting tripod stools is inspired by nature. Made from either solid oak, walnut or ebonised beech and lovingly hand oiled, the curved lines are a simple and beautiful addition to both contemporary and classic interior schemes.

The recessed seat is ergonomic for comfort and allows the tripod stool to double up as a side table. Technologically designed to push the boundaries of innovation and traditionally made using robust mortice and tenon jointing for durability. Hand finished and fully stackable. Stack two or three in your room to create an architectural feature. Thoughtfully designed by Dovetailors in our UK workshop.

Dimensions: H : 46cm, W: 38cm, D: 38cm

Availability: Made to order, ready to ship within 2 weeks of order received.

**Price: £360.00 – £468.00 inc. Vat**

**Also available as a bar stool and counter stool.**