

Upcoming exhibition *Inspired by China: Contemporary Furnituremakers Explore Chinese Traditions* opens June 28, 2007 and runs through October 28, 2007 at the Museum of Arts & Design, New York, NY.

*Inspired by China: Contemporary Furnituremakers Explore Chinese Traditions* brings together 29 stellar examples of historic Chinese furniture, with 28 works created specifically for the exhibition. The 22 artists—from the United States, Canada, and China, are each recognized for innovations in studio furniture, one of the hottest fields in contemporary design.

In choosing an international group of furnituremakers, curators Nancy Berliner and Ned Cooke opted for mature artists with track records for producing consistently strong works. To shed light on the exquisitely refined art of hidden joinery found in historical pieces, they invited such furnituremakers as Michael Puryear, whose simplicity in design belies an underlying complexity. Influenced by Chinese, Japanese, and African cultural traditions, furniture-maker Michael Puryear creates understated and graceful furniture. The *Inspired by China* exhibition is an opportunity for visitors to view some of the exciting work being created in the field of studio furniture, in the context of extraordinary historic Chinese furniture.

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