

SOM's Burj Dubai  
152 Stories  
and Still Climbing

11/8/07 2:02:06 PM Metropolis\_MOV\_COVER.indd



# METROPOLIS

ber 2007

ITECTURE<CULTURE>DESIGN

## DUBAI RISING

New  
Hope  
for the  
Middle  
East



WWW.METROPOLISMAG.COM

USA \$6.95 | CANADA \$6.95

ALSO ●  
Can LEED Survive  
the Carbon-Neutral



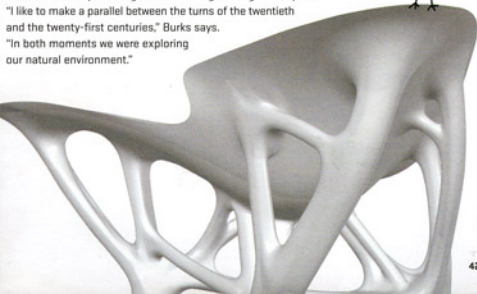


**Voronoi Shelf** by Marc Newson, Gagosian Gallery

In an industry progressively influenced by the art world, designers are acting as auteurs and partnering with investors to create limited-edition or one-off objects. An "obvious business transaction at work," according to Burks, is Marc Newson's furniture cut from single slabs of Carrara marble and sold exclusively through Larry Gagosian's gallery. They may be tagged at \$100,000 to \$450,000, but many would consider the pieces **Priceless**.

**Bone Furniture** by Joris Laarman, Friedman Benda Gallery

**Neo Nature** recognizes the increasing use of new technologies to simulate organic forms. Bone Furniture's anthropomorphic form was developed using Ph.D.-level engineering techniques. "I like to make a parallel between the turns of the twentieth and the twenty-first centuries," Burks says. "In both moments we were exploring our natural environment."



**The Alcove Sofa**

by Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, Vitra  
**Outside In** was partially inspired by the Philip Johnson Glass House. Not only about panoramic windows, the trend also has to do with "micro-architectural moments within a larger interior." The spacious high-back Alcove Sofa feels like a room within a room, and two placed opposite each other create a sound-insulating space.



## Trendsetter

Stephen Burks picks four examples of fashion-forward furniture.

Like hurricanes, trends are easy to spot but take an expert to predict. Thankfully, every June the organizers of the IMM Cologne furniture fair send five creative experts into a room to interpret currents like the best weathermen, getting a fix on what's happening before the main event rolls around in January. This year New York-based designer Stephen Burks, of ReadyMade Projects, joined architect Eero Koivisto, materials specialist Christiane Sauer, designer Fabio Novembre, and journalist Sophie Lovell. Each participant presented projects he or she found inspiring and then, as Burks describes the process, the group had to "hash it out and categorize the uncategorizable."

The results have been published in "Interior Trends 2008," which features materials, shapes, colors, and patterns representing the four movements the panel identified—Outside In, Neo Nature, Design School, and Priceless. Offering *Metropolis* a glimpse of the future, Burks chose one product that exemplifies each trend. Check out his forecast.

—Melanie Ryan

**Fracture Furniture**

by Ineke Hans, Cappellini  
 As **Design School** graduates grow up, they hold on to their irreverent willingness to experiment. Burks highlights Ineke Hans's eclectic polystyrene furniture. "The furniture is wrapped in gauze that has been dipped in resin," he says. "She can create any form she wants but chooses one that is visually naive and somehow belies its process."

