

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

NEW WORK BY WENDELL CASTLE AT FRIEDMAN
BENDA

DAILY AD



Captain's Chair, 2013, in ash, by Wendell Castle.

A father of the American studio furniture movement, Wendell Castle has been designing daringly curvaceous chairs and tables for nearly 60 years. On April 1, the New York City gallery Friedman Benda will present "Gathering Momentum," an exhibition of Castle's latest large-scale chairs in wood and bronze. "They're not like chairs, even though they are chairs," Castle says of the pieces, which feature cantilevered seats sprouting from clusters of ellipsoid forms. "If you approach them from the side or the back, you would assume they were sculptures."

McKeough, Tim. "New Work by Wendell Castle at Friedman Benda," *Architectural Digest*. March 16, 2015.

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Deep in the Wood, 2014, ash.

The show also celebrates the publication of *Wendell Castle: A Catalogue Raisonné, 1958–2012* (The Artist Book Foundation, \$150), an exhaustive 564-page testament to the designer's ceaseless creativity. Although Castle has experimented with different materials and processes over the years, his recent work reflects a return to his roots. "I've come full circle, in a sense," he says, noting that some of his latest pieces "have a fair resemblance to my earlier work."



Veiled in a Dream, 2014, bronze.

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The difference, however, is that the tools in his Scottsville, New York, studio—including a three-dimensional laser scanner and wood-cutting robot—allow him to create even more audacious shapes than would have been possible half a century ago.

“You just could not do some of the really complicated things in the 1960s,” says Castle, adding that each of his pieces is still finished by hand. “Today’s technology has let us take this new leap.”

*From April 1 through May 30 at Friedman Benda, 515 W. 26th St., New York;
friedmanbenda.com*

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