
FRIEDMAN BENDA  515 W 26TH STREET NEW YORK NY 10001
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MAKERS + SHAKERS
Five renegade designers who are pushing the boundaries of high design

Product manufacturing and distribution have shifted dramatically in recent years, opening up endless opportunities for designers to tap new markets, explore unconventional materials— even use their skills for social good. Welcome to the next generation of independent makers.

By Nicola Homer, Kendra Jackson, Will Myers, Catherine Sweeney and Léa-Catherine Szacka

Joris Laarman
The undisputed leader of the 3-D printing brigade

The Joris Laarman Lab in Amsterdam is a blender of materials, new technologies and traditions, all powered by a commitment to originality and, probably most important, a willingness to fail. The designs that emerge from the studio— which is run by the 36-year-old Dutchman and his partner, Anita Star— foretell a future of biologically inspired objects produced by local 3-D printers. We’ve heard this sort of thing before, where we are all destined to become makers of our own furniture and homes. But Laarman’s recent creation, the Aluminum Gradient Chair, sweeps aside the pale.

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