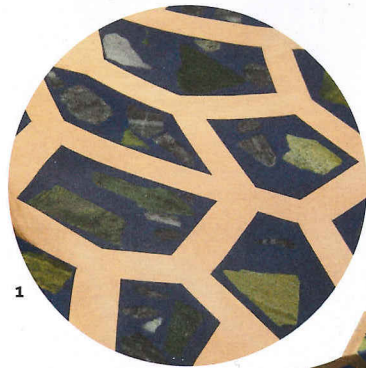


DISCOVERIES



1

1. A BRONZE STOOL INLAID WITH TERRAZZO AND RESIN (DETAIL SHOWN) FROM DAVID WISEMAN'S SOLO SHOW AT KASMIN GALLERY (KASMINGALLERY.COM).
2. JALI PATTERN TABLE (DETAIL SHOWN).
3. WISEMAN IN HIS L.A. STUDIO.



2

EXHIBITIONS

A Natural Fit

David Wiseman forges his own path with a solo show at Kasmin gallery and a new studio complex on the way



3

need to be really close to the work right now," says David Wiseman, who, for the past several months, has been head-down in his Los Angeles studio—ladling molten bronze into molds, welding aluminum sheets, and brazing together tiny bronze twigs. "There's no sleep 'til Kasmin."

He's referring to his highly anticipated solo debut, opening March 14 at New York's blue-chip Kasmin gallery. For the designer, whose metal, porcelain, and glass creations dazzle in boutiques and homes across the country, the exhibition marks a milestone. Two years ago, after sticking to the standard script (artist makes, gallery represents) for more than a decade, Wiseman decided to shake things up, parting ways with his longtime dealers and teaming with his brother Ari, former deputy director of the Guggenheim Museum and Foundation, to found Wiseman Studio. The duo now handle their own commissions and sales, treating shows like this one at Kasmin as special projects.

"It's the biggest thrill to steer our own ship," explains Wiseman, who is also renovating a new, expansive studio and showroom in L.A.'s Frogtown neighborhood, complete with a "secret garden" to grow the botanical muses that have long informed his work. "It allows me to take chances," he notes, referring to a forthcoming collection of wallpaper, among other departures. That's just the sort of organic discovery on which the studio was founded. In the early 2000s, when Wiseman started making furniture as a student at the Rhode Island School of Design, he realized something was missing from contemporary design: ornament. He found his inspiration on long walks through the woods. "I saw patterns that I desperately wanted to bring indoors."

Countless chandeliers, gates, vases, and miniature treasures later, he'll unveil 25 hyper-refined works at Kasmin, some of which exhibit, for the first time, resin inlaid with marble terrazzo. "I have always been inspired by the plant and animal worlds," he says. "Now I'm engaging with the mineral world. It felt totally natural." dwiseman.com —HANNAH MARTIN

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