



Creative

MINDS

THIS DYNAMIC GROUP DREAMS BIG, DARES GREATLY, AND, AS A RESULT, INSPIRES US TO DO SO OURSELVES. REPRESENTING A VARIETY OF FIELDS—FROM FASHION TO FURNITURE DESIGN, ARCHITECTURE TO ARTISAN CRAFTS—THESE EXTRAORDINARY TALENTS OFFER A CREATIVE VISION THAT PUSHES BOUNDARIES, CROSSES MEDIUMS, AND BELIES TRADITIONAL CONCEPTS.



DAVID WISEMAN

"This is the busiest chapter of my life," says Los Angeles artist and designer David Wiseman, "but since I've been working, I've always said the same thing." There's the slew of custom commissions, including a chandelier canopy that conjures "an overhead, glowing dream garden made of plaster, porcelain, and rock crystal," which his studio is working on for a high-profile celebrity couple. New pieces in an exhibition opening March 14 at Kasmin in New York, Wiseman's first with the gallery, will demonstrate just how his work bridges art and design. In his quest to realize a perfect jungle paradise, Wiseman will debut wallpaper depicting monkeys and a lagoon at the show as well, plus a monolithic marble fireplace with a collage composition of "fish scale, clover, chrysanthemums, water, and shark teeth." dwiseman.com —J.T.



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▼ Thomas WOLTZ

"Horticulture can convey many hidden aspects of the soil—it's a powerful vehicle for narrative," says landscape architect Thomas Woltz. As a principal and owner of Nelson Byrd Woltz, he's perfected the art of telling stories that quite literally spring from the earth. With a portfolio that includes a 3,000-acre New Zealand sheep ranch, a meadow at the Naval Cemetery in Brooklyn (right), and the somber Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, the 45-person practice (which has offices in New York and Charlottesville, Virginia) has become the natural choice for major public projects meant to send a forceful message that's both beautiful and environmental.



In March, NBW is set to unveil one of its most challenging projects to date: a five-acre public plaza at Hudson Yards, the new mixed-use development on Manhattan's West Side. "We had to create a human-scaled public space adjacent to 1,000-foot-tall skyscrapers, design for shade cast by the buildings, provide nutrient-rich soil for plants to grow, and insulate the plant beds from the 150-degree heat blasting from the trains below," he explains. Ever the alchemist, Woltz took those constraints in stride, conjuring a beautiful centerpiece for the neighborhood that will not only recycle some 80 percent of the site's rainwater but also flourish throughout the year with over 28,000 plants, including winterberry, spicebush, and echinacea.

Also nearing completion are Memorial Park in Houston and Nashville's Centennial Park, two beloved green spaces with deep historical roots in their respective cities. "When all is said and done, more than 36 million people annually will interact with an NBW park," says Woltz. "So many lessons can be found in working with plants. I don't think there is ever a final realization but a continuous learning." nbwla.com —G.M.

Galerie

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