

The image is an abstract artwork by Djivan Schapira. It features a large, central circle composed of concentric rings in shades of purple and pink. A thin, dark horizontal line bisects the circle. The background is a warm, yellowish-gold color. The overall composition is minimalist and geometric.

DJIVAN SCHAPIRA  
Space Modern



# DJIVAN SCHAPIRA

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# DJIVAN SCHAPIRA

by Dallas Dunn

Designer Djivan Schapira draws from a wealth of divergent experiences and inspirations to create unique works of collective design that are as cleverly functional as they are playfully animated. His sun-drenched New Jersey studio, with unparalleled views of the Hudson River and the New York skyline, is a riotous amassment of art, vintage furniture and objects, graphic design, and an expanding tangle of houseplants. In spite of this aesthetic chaos, which fuels his creative motivations, his works are remarkably distilled and confidently realized.

Schapira's creative and technical abilities should come as no surprise: the son of a master craftsman, Djivan began an informal "apprenticeship" with his father beginning in childhood and continuing through his 20s. A graduate of the esteemed Parsons School of Design, he studied architecture, building a foundation of technical skills and an understanding of material, space, and engineering that would become paramount to his design practice.

While still in school Schapira began experimenting with resins, developing techniques and a distinct style that are now the cornerstone of his artistic output. After graduating in 2018, he launched an atelier producing made-to-order furniture and interior décor for residential & commercial spaces.

Collaborations with global designers in the hospitality, restaurant, and residential sectors led to installations in a number of high-end public spaces such as the Hoxton in Los Angeles, the Waldorf Astoria in Qatar, and the Venetian Resort Hotel in Las Vegas.

Schapira's first endeavor at a cohesive collection, a group of trays, wall-hangings, and other decorative luxury items titled "Les Fleurs", was originally set for release in March 2020. A fait accompli in the form of an unprecedented global event halted all projects and the plans for launch was scrapped. A time of intense reflection in the months that followed afforded Schapira the opportunity to expand his research, hone his technical skills, and envisage his personal evolution as a designer and artist. He began to focus on his own personal line of functional artwork, embarking on his greatest ambition to date. Incorporating his years of learning & experience, as well as the entire 'dead' "Les Fleurs" collection, Schapira conceived of a unique collection light years ahead of its previous existence. The present body of work is an elevation in form, function, and material.

Schapira's recent pieces marry visual motifs of retro futurism and the high-end French decorative arts techniques (marquetry, lacquer) learned from his father. His subsequent



mastery over the process of mixing and pouring resins has expanded the potential of contemporary design. The possibilities for combinations, arrangements, and colors of the resin are endless, rendering each piece completely unique. A love letter to the space race era of design, Schapira has incorporated more modern references – the production art of *Tron*, Daft Punk's visionary costumes, the Bauhaus revival of the 1970s – into a physical and functional embodiment of galactic ambition.

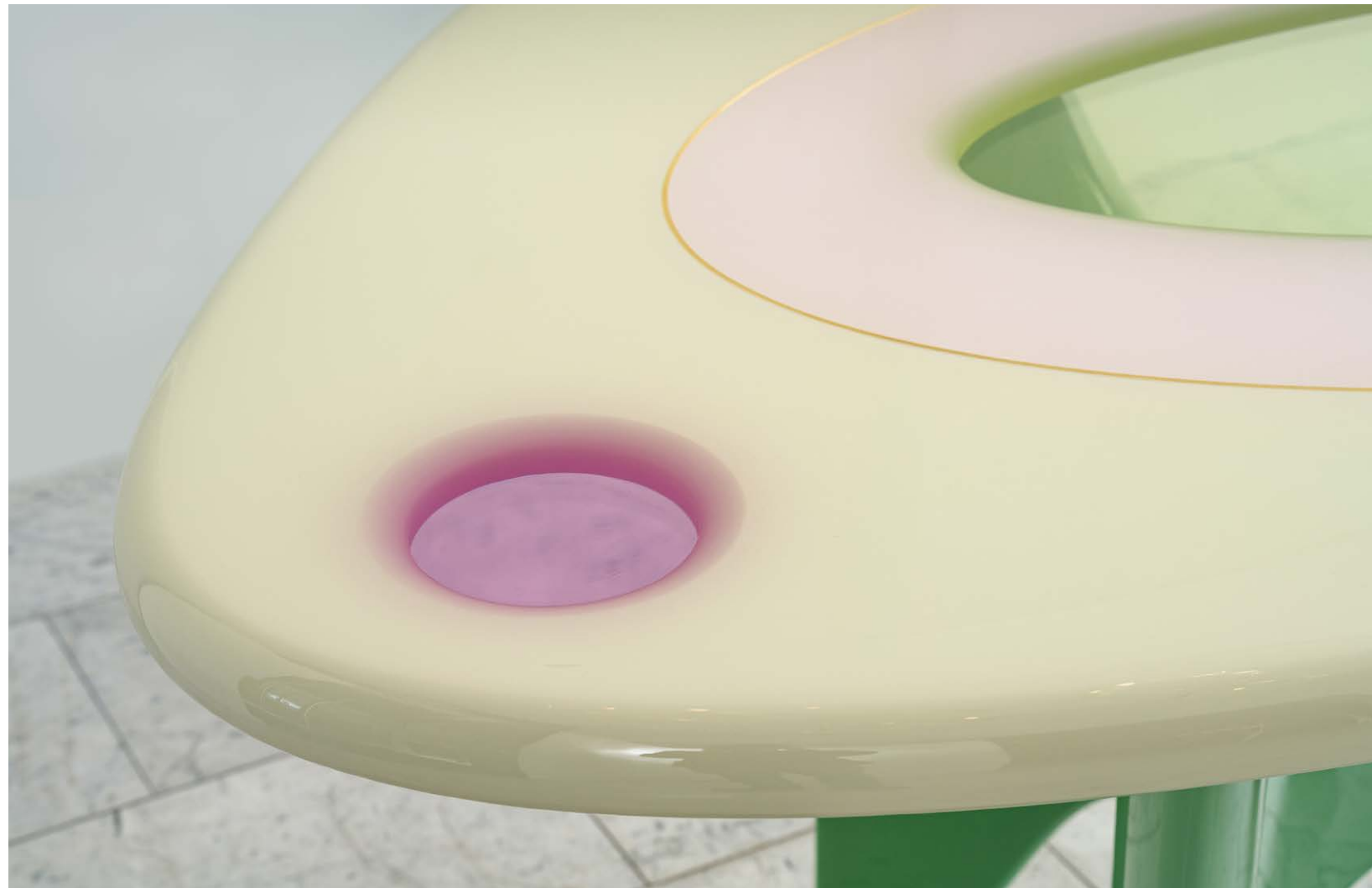
Schapira's work has been featured in world-renowned publications including *Interior Design Magazine*, *Architectural Digest*, *Modern Luxury*, *Surface Magazine*, and *Owners*: a French magazine exclusively for Aston Martin owners. In addition to winning an internationally acclaimed A' Design Award for his *Andromeda Cocktail Table* in 2019, Schapira was the winning recipient of both the NYCxDESIGN 2022 Emerging Product Designer of the Year Award in the Furniture category, as well as the People's Choice Award which crossed all mediums. In 2023 took home the prize for Best Furniture Design at NYCxDESIGN 2023.

## *Travis Dining Table, 2023*

Resin, Rosewood, Bronze, Epoxy  
29 7/8h x 115w x 46d in







*Divergent Foyer Table, 2023*

Resin, Rosewood, Bronze, Epoxy  
30.25h x 63w x 42.50d inches



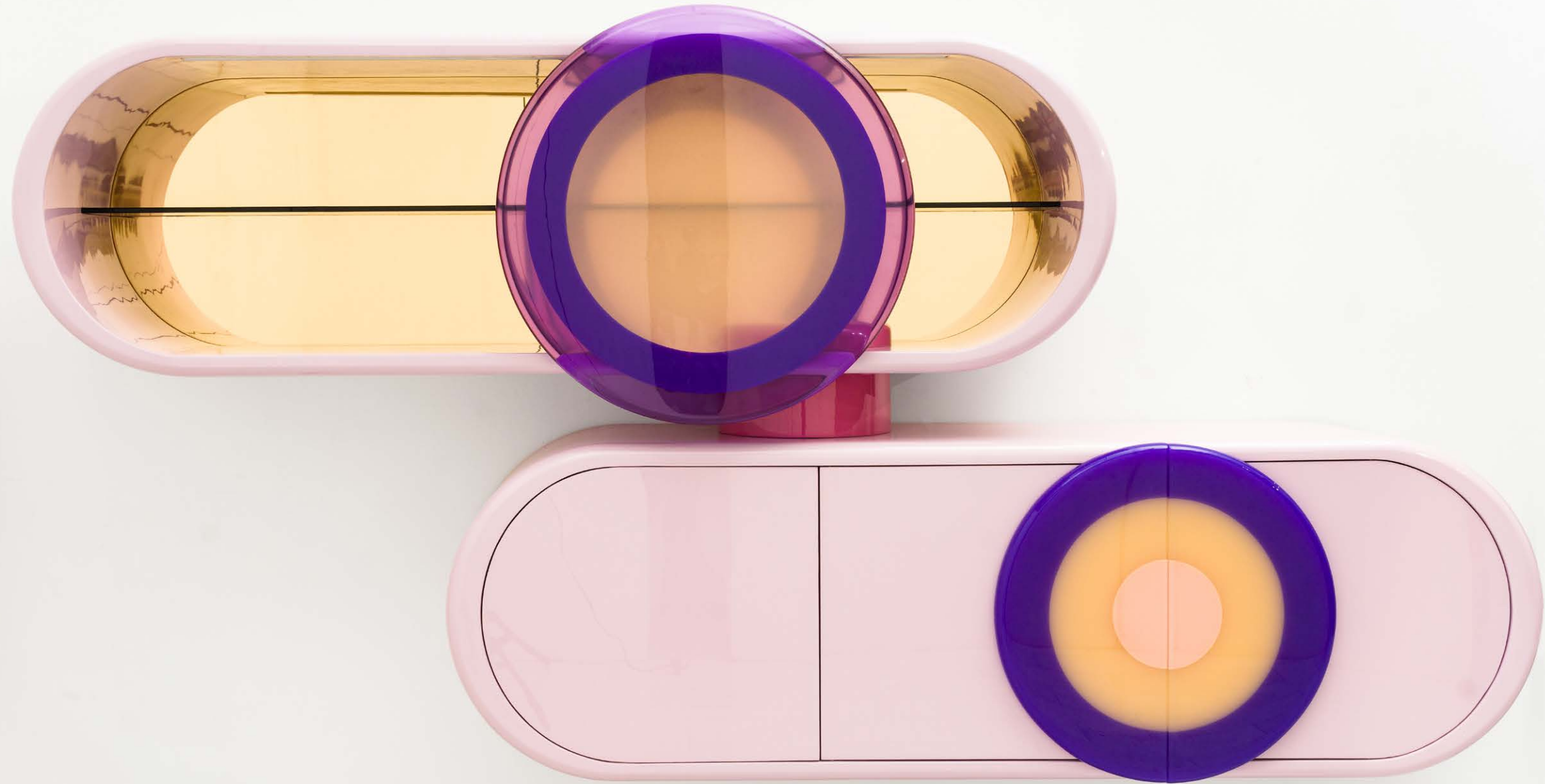


*Divergent Low Table, 2023*

Resin and Bronze Wire  
16.25h x 39w x 27d inches

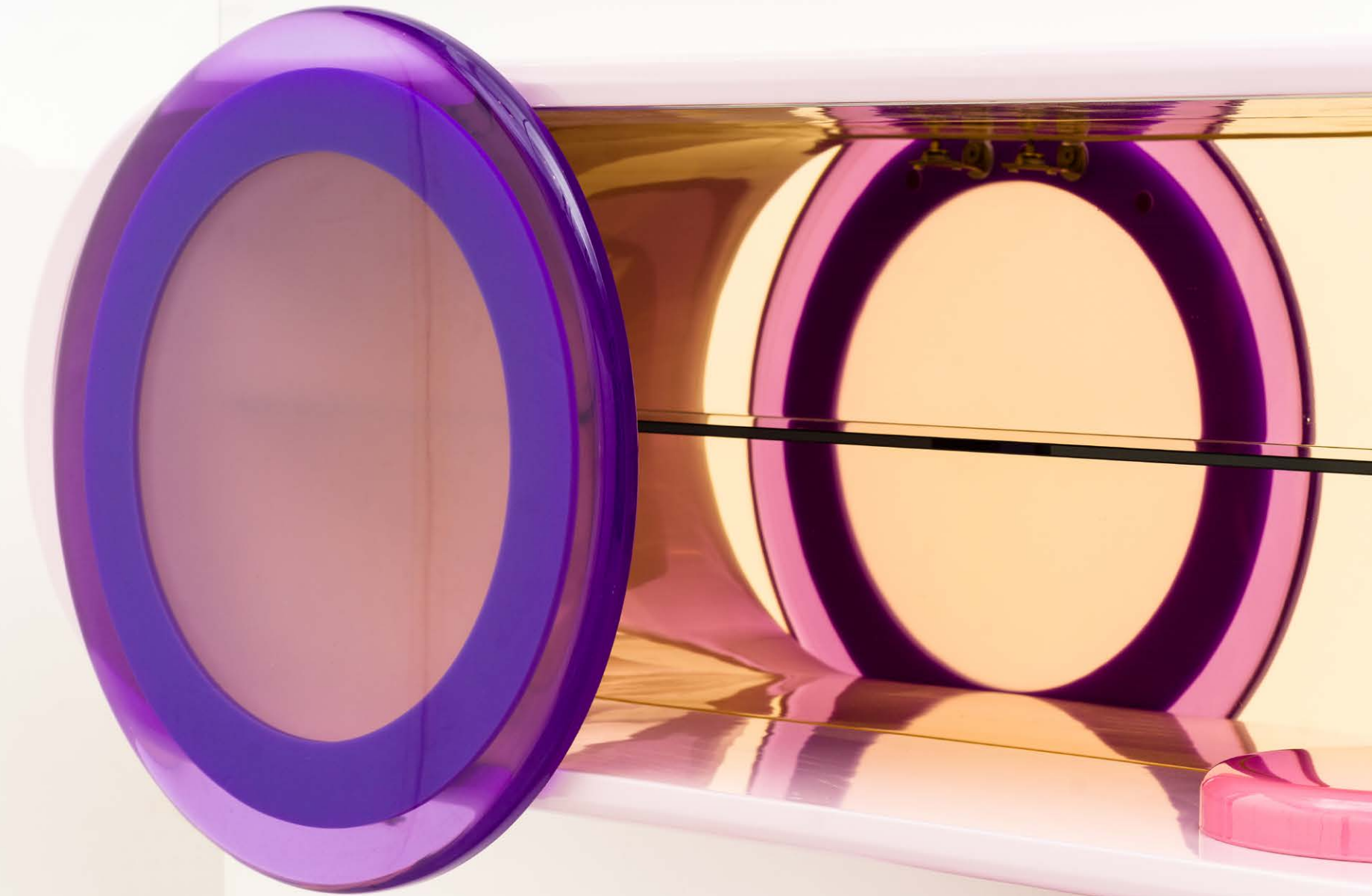






*Bar Candy, 2022*

Resin, Bronze Wire, Bronze Acrylic, Bronze Glass  
50h x 100w x 17.50d inches





*Stellar Dial Console, 2022*

Bleached Rosewood, Resin, Bronze, Concrete, Leather  
72h x 65.50w x 15d inches









*Orbit Occasional Table VII, 2023*

Resin  
24.50h x 16.25w x 16.25d inches



*Orbit Occasional Table VIII, 2023*

Resin  
24.50h x 15.75w x 15.75d inches



*Orbit Occasional Table III, 2023*

Resin and Bronze Wire  
22.75h x 20w x 20d inches

*Orbit Occasional Table II, 2023*

Resin and Bronze Wire  
18h x 20w x 20d inches

*Orbit Occasional Table I, 2023*

Resin and Bronze Wire  
20h x 20w x 20d inches








*Orbit Occasional Table II, 2023*

Resin and Bronze Wire  
18h x 20w x 20d inches





*Orbit Occasional Table VI, 2023*

Resin and Bronze Wire  
22h x 20.25w x 20.25d inches





*Orbit Occasional Table IV, 2023*

Resin and Bronze Wire  
18.50h x 30w x 30d inches

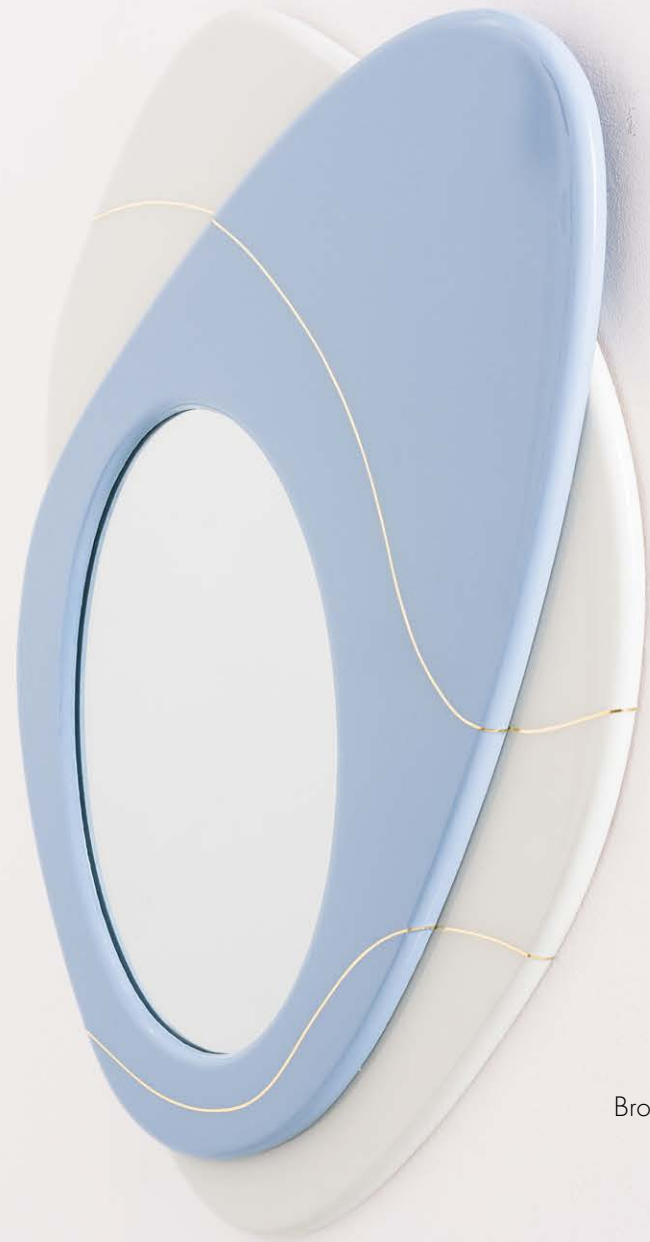




*Divergent Mirror, 2022*

Bronze Wire, Resin, StarFire Mirror, High gloss finish  
41h x 23w x 3.50d inches





*Divergent Mirror II, 2022*

Bronze Wire, Resin, StarFire Mirror, High gloss finish  
41h x 30w x 3.50d inches

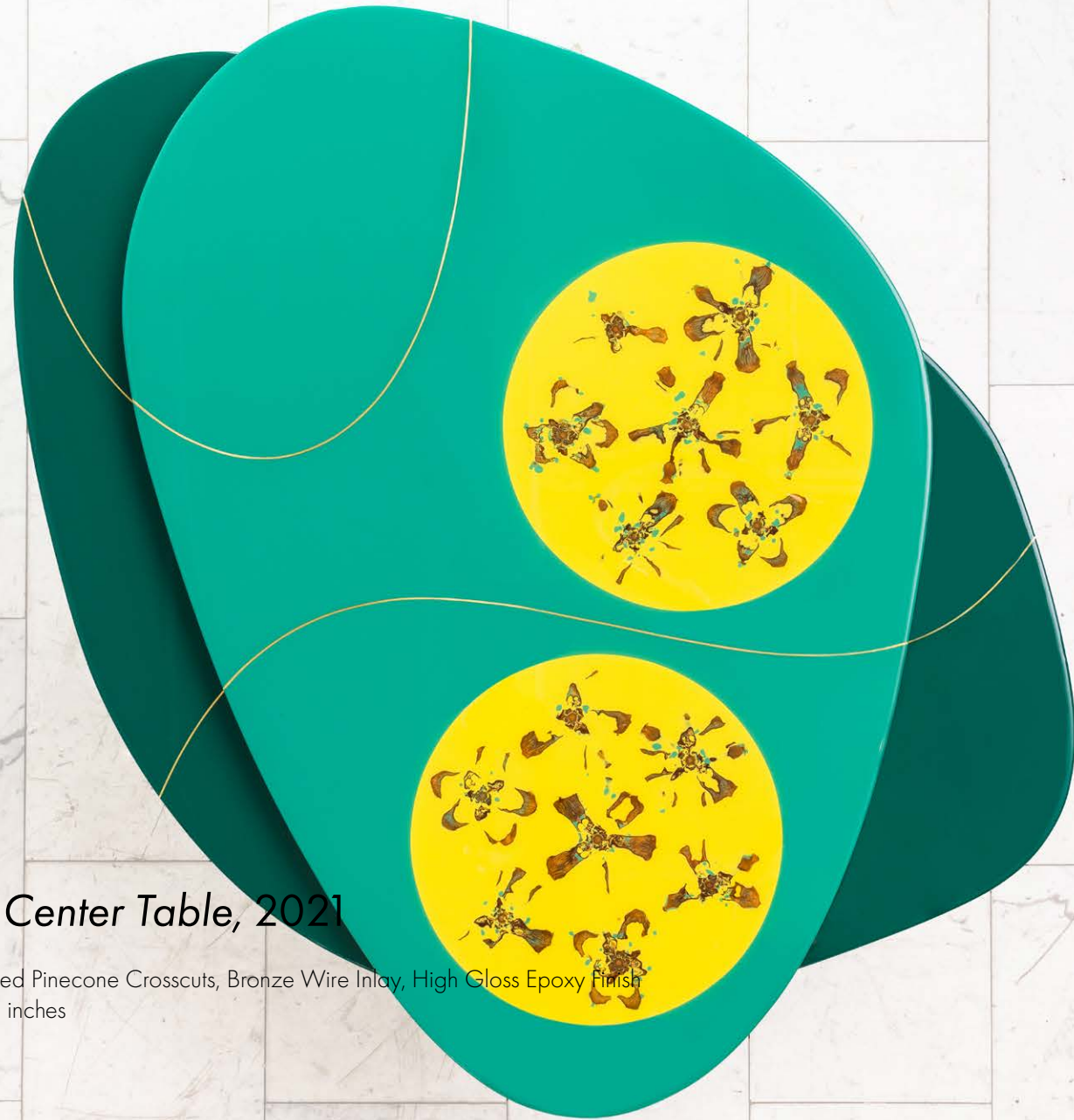


*Divergent Mirror III, 2022*

Bronze Wire, Resin, StarFire Mirror, High gloss finish  
42h x 29w x 2d inches

*Nénuphar Center Table, 2021*

Resin, Wood, Recycled Pinecone Crosscuts, Bronze Wire Inlay, High Gloss Epoxy Finish  
13.50h x 42w x 53d inches





*Flux de Tulipes Dining Table, 2021*

Resin, Wood, Recycled Pinecone Crosscuts, Bronze Wire Inlay, High Gloss Epoxy Finish  
30.50h x 112w x 48d inches





## Todd Merrill Studio

Todd Merrill Studio represents an international group of established and emerging artists, each with a singular artistic vision and unprecedented point of view. In creating unique works of collectible design, each artist takes a hands-on approach that intersects contemporary design, fine art, traditional craft techniques, and pioneering innovation.

Individually, through meticulous craftsmanship and rigorous studio experimentation, each has developed leading-edge, proprietary methods that break previously set inherent limitations of conventional materials like wood, metal, plaster, concrete, ceramics, glass, and resin. Their intimate studio approach fosters an atmosphere of creativity where the work rendered significantly bears the hand of the artist.

Collectively the artists are helping to create a new visual vocabulary that advances long-held, established artistic boundaries. Their dynamic, one-of-a-kind, and frequently groundbreaking works contribute to today's increasingly relevant grey space between art and design.

With the gallery's support, the artists' works have entered the collections of major private and public patrons and prestigious museums including the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum in New York; the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston; the Museum of Art and Design in New York; the High Museum in Atlanta; the Victoria and Albert Museum in London; the Carnegie Museum of Art in Philadelphia, the Houston Museum of Fine Art, and the Brooklyn Museum in New York.

In 2000, Todd Merrill opened Todd Merrill Antiques which quickly became renowned for its glamorous and eclectic mix of twentieth-century furniture and lighting. The pioneering gallery was one of the first to promote modernist and postmodernist American studio artisans including Paul Evans, Phillip Lloyd Powell, George Nakashima, Karl Springer, James Mont, Tommi Parzinger, among others.

In 2008, Rizzoli published Merrill's "Modern Americana: Studio Furniture from High Craft to High Glam", the first ever authoritative examination of the great studio furniture makers and designers who, from 1940 thru the 1990s defined American high style. To celebrate the tenth anniversary, in 2018 Rizzoli published an expanded edition, adding 60 pages to his original book. This survey of the period continues with two massive additional chapters focused on Women Makers and Showrooms.

After the publication of Modern Americana in 2008, Merrill began to shift the focus of the gallery and started the Studio Contemporary program which has today become his primary focus. Also in 2008 the gallery introduced Custom Originals, a line of custom produced upholstered furniture designed by Merrill himself. Merrill's signature creations reflect his vast experience with twentieth-century design and knowledge of contemporary tastes.







**Todd Merrill**  
STUDIO