

An Inspired collaboration: Morta, ancient bog oak candlesticks

Silversmith Karen Wallace and furniture designer-maker Edward Wild have collaborated exclusively for Inspired to produce a pair of truly unique candlesticks that will be launched at this year's Inspired exhibition. Entitled Morta, the candlesticks are named after the Roman goddess of death, this is the first piece from their Goddess Collaboration series.

The partnership was born out of the pair's desire to create something that reflected the intricacies of the individual strokes and marks made by craftspeople working with natural materials. The candlesticks' columns have been made from ancient 5,300 year old bog oak, chosen for its deep black colour and smooth texture, which has been shaped and burnished exposing each cut of the maker's blade.

The sconce has been crafted from beaten and shaped silver, which has then been hand engraved to showcase every motion of the hand and mark of the tool. Similarly, the silver was designed to echo this effect and as the silver ages, the cuts and marks will develop a patina and become more visible and dramatic for a constantly evolving piece of work.

Both Edward and Karen were keen to explore ideas and exchange techniques and have spent the last 12 months working together to produce this inspired piece.

An internationally renowned furniture maker, Edward's work combines classical proportion and design with skilled craftsmanship, creating a clean contemporary style from intricate jewellery and cufflink boxes to side tables and display cabinets. Each piece is designed and crafted by hand in his Devon workshop, including bespoke commissions, alongside a range of limited edition pieces. Based in Glasgow, silversmith Karen Wallace trained as a jeweller, calligraphic hand engraver and hand engraver. Karen has been apprenticed to and under the supervision of the world famous master engraver Malcolm Appleby, enabling Karen her to gain a wide range of technical skills using a variety of metals and precious stones. Her work combines these skills to create contemporary silverware, noted for its' expertly detailed engraving.

For further information please contact:

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Editors notes

Inspired 2017 at the Goldsmiths' Centre
3rd-6th May 2017
The Goldsmiths' Centre
42 Britton Street
London
EC1M 5AD

Opening times: Wednesday 3rd – Friday 5th May, 10am-5pm
 Saturday 6th May, 10am-4pm

'INSPIRED' is curated and run by the Festival of Silver in partnership with The Furniture Makers' Company and is sponsored by the Goldsmiths' Company which has been supporting this initiative since 2013.

'INSPIRED' returns to the Goldsmiths' Centre during London Craft Week and is a selling exhibition of luxury, contemporary silverware and bespoke furniture by the UK's finest crafts men and women. It aims to promote the unique and diverse range of contemporary silver and bespoke furniture made in the UK by both established and new designers; raise awareness of the contemporary silver and bespoke furniture industries and makers; and create sales for exhibitors and raise their profiles.