



February 7, 2013

Gallery 924 will feature fine art furniture by Herron alumni Hutton and Robinson in *Beyond Vernacular*

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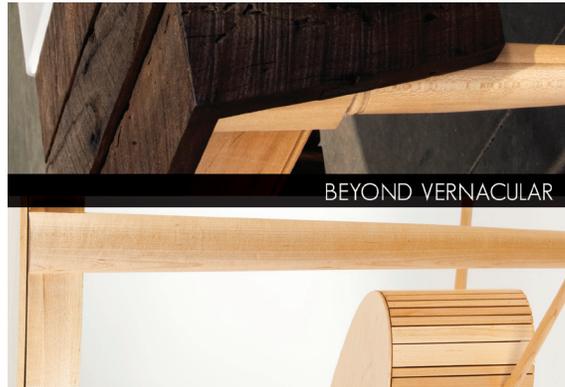
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It's fair to say that Matt Hutton and Cory Robinson, who graduated from Herron School of Art and Design in 1999 with B.F.A. degrees in what was then called "woodworking," are now in the vanguard of shaping fine art furniture's future.

Hutton, 37, (studio24b.com) co-founded the woodworking and furniture design program at the Maine College of Art. Robinson, 35, (coryrobinsonstudio.com) is an associate professor of furniture design and fine art department chair at his undergraduate alma mater.

After Herron, they both completed master's degrees at San Diego State University. Each can boast association with a top fine art furniture program in the United States. But instead, their style is to let the art speak for itself, which it will in *Beyond Vernacular*, a joint exhibition beginning March 1 and continuing through March 29 at Gallery 924, the Arts Council of Indianapolis's downtown space on Pennsylvania Street.

Beyond Vernacular opened at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Portland last November, featuring table forms and wall shelves made using digital fabrication techniques and materials including steel, wood and acrylic. For this exhibit, both artists found inspiration in bucolic, romanticized Midwestern settings, overtly incorporating "low" influence into "high" design.

Robinson funded his work by obtaining a highly competitive IUPUI Arts and Humanities Institute Grant. The Furniture Society, an international, nonprofit organization for professionals in the furniture field, selected Robinson as a new trustee in 2012. Hutton was included in the 2012 edition of the Maine Today Media's "Forty Under 40" index of the "emerging generation of leaders" in the state. In addition to his academic appointment at Maine College of Art, Hutton currently serves on the board of the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Deer Isle, Maine.

Gallery 924 Director Shannon Linker said, "I was struck by the strong and very intentional representation of the artist's sense of home—of a rural



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Indiana. Their work is at once high design and very contemporary while having a certain amount of comfort and familiarity. The pieces themselves will be amazing in our gallery space as they relate so well to the natural light, wood beams and exposed brick—Gallery 924 has a very earthy, yet contemporary feel as well.”

Hutton said, “Cory and I are cut from the same cloth, growing up in Indiana and sharing a common desire to express ourselves through form and function.”

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