

*An
na
Be
ra*

2023

Anna Bera is a multidisciplinary creative, woodcarver and carpenter specializing in functional art using wood as her main medium. She was born in 1985 and raised in a small village in the Swietokrzyskie Mountains, Poland. Since 2014 she runs her own design studio and workshop based in Warsaw dedicated to creating unique objects, crafted by hand from wood, with inspiration coming from Bera's observations of the relationship between humans

and nature — from a biological, spiritual and cultural perspective. The artist focuses on the ways the objects are used and on their ritualistic significance in everyday life. She creates sculptural furniture and utility objects, the form of which does not reveal the functionality, instead encouraging the users to explore and give them their own meaning.



Earth Stone Wood

*Concept and design: Anna Bera
Material: cherry, charred cherry,
reclaimed soft wood
Year: 2015
Photos: Emilia Oksentowicz*

This collection of modular and multifunctional furniture is a naturalistic study of the orthoquartzite rock of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains and it refers to pagan rites of the ancient Slavs. Single piece of furniture can serve as a table, a seat, or a storage unit. A set of two or more elements can be combined to compose a cabinet. The dynamic spatial relations between the elements introduce the changeability typical for natural landscapes.









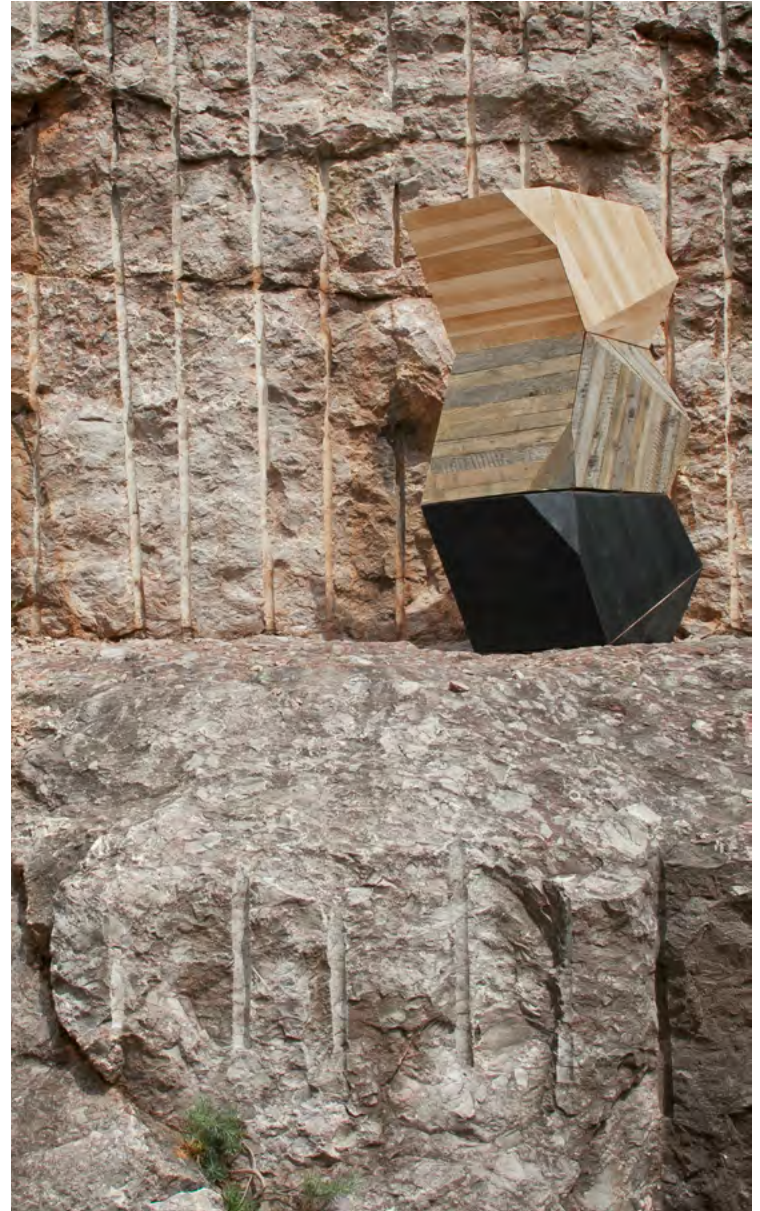
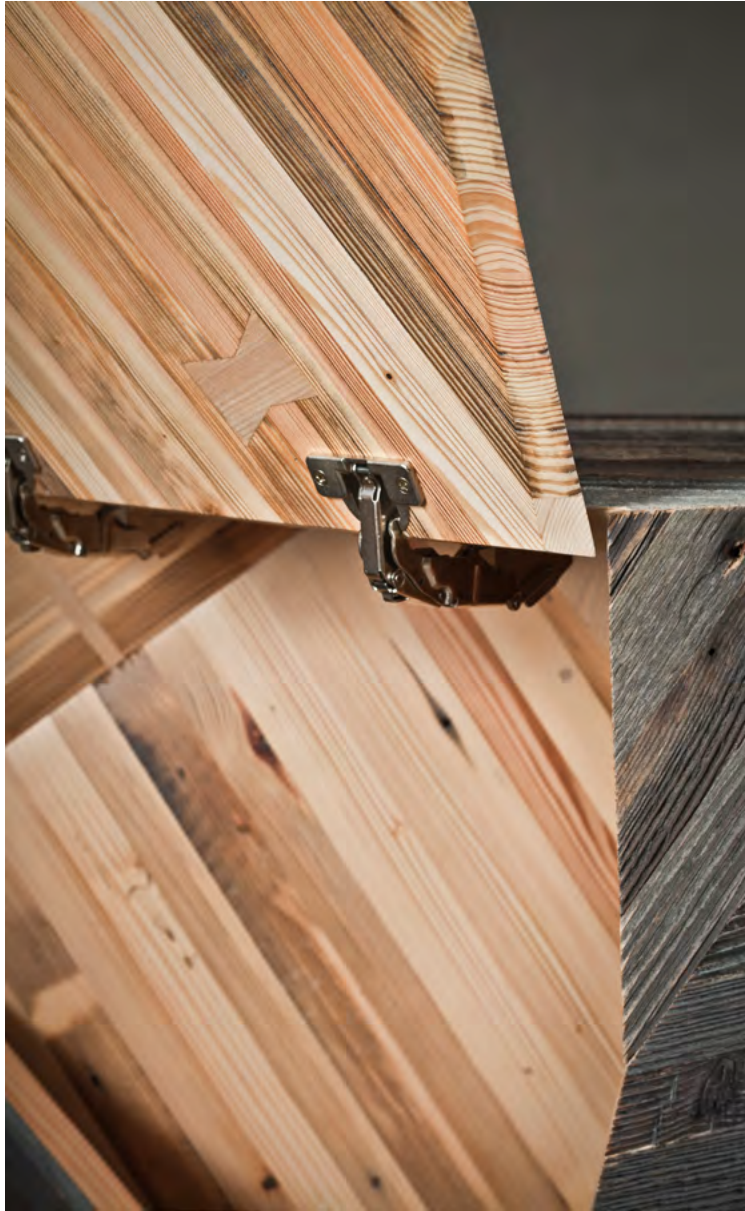
Earth (9.3.1.1)

side table and cabinet

material: painted/ charred wild
cherry wood

dimensions: H50 x W100 x D40 cm









Stone (9.3.2.1)

side table and cabinet

material: reclaimed soft wood

dimensions: H50 x W100 x D40 cm



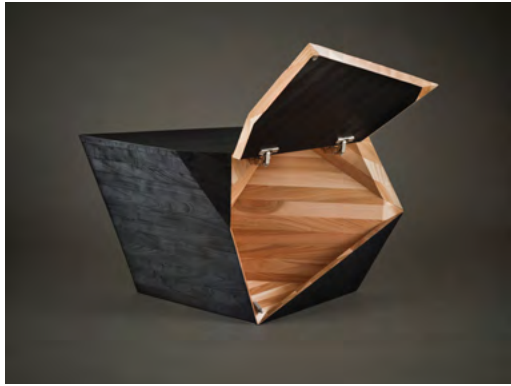
Wood (9.3.3.2)

side table and cabinet

material: wild cherry wood

dimensions: H50 x W100 x D40 cm





earth (9.3.1.) black painted cherry



stone (9.3.2.) reclaimed soft wood



wood (9.3.3.) natural cherry



mirror image (.2)



regular (.1)



double cabinet mirror: mirror + regular



double cabinet regular: regular + mirror

*This furniture
is available
in three
finishes*

*and two
orientations:
regular
or mirror
image*

*which can
be combined to
compose
a double
cabinet in
two options.*

FEDO

side table

material: wild cherry wood

dimensions: H50 x W60 x D40 cm





HAC

side table

material: wild cherry wood

dimensions: H50 x W100 x D40 cm



Concept and design: Anna Bera
Production: Anna Bera in
collaboration with ceramic artist
Agnieszka Ciszewska and weaver
Zygmunt Łukasiewicz
Material: oak, clay
Year: 2017-2018
Photos: Emilia Oksentowicz

Fossils

The form of the objects refers to the fossil formation process and, therefore, to the creation of a trace of organic matter in a stone. The openings in the tabletop are designed to accommodate the tableware. The shapes of the individual pieces of crockery match specific openings. The user can change the setting of the dishes by assigning them a function and adapting them to different hollows depending on their needs. The collection includes a hand-carved coffee table and a set of wall shelves with ceramic tableware, as well as a cabinet.







Fossil N.1

low table and chest

material: hand-carved oak wood

dimensions: H42 x W97 x D54 cm









Fossil N.11 and N.12

wall-hang shelf

material: hand-carved oak wood

dimensions: W50 x D20 cm,
thickness 5 cm





Fossil N.2

wall-hang cabinet

material: hand-carved oak wood

dimensions: H78 x W52 x D26 cm







Fossil N.10

wall-hang shelf with two ceramic vessels

material: hand-carved oak wood,
hand-formed pottery clay

dimensions: W100 x D20 cm,
thickness 5 cm





mąka
ryż
kasza

POPPY N.1

serving platter

material: oak wood

dimensions: W35 x D15 cm

thickness 2 cm



POPPY N.2

serving platter

material: oak wood

dimensions: W43 x D19 cm

thickness 2 cm



Shape N.6

wall-hang sculpture

material: hand-carved oak wood

dimensions: H100 x W5 x D12 cm



Decay

Concept and design: Anna Bera
Material: cedar wood, oak burr
Year: 2017
Photos: Tomek Henke

Decay is a research project initiated in 2017 as part of design residency at Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft. It studies how the decay process in wood initiated by specific type of fungi could be interpreted as a creative force (rather than destructive one). Shape, color, texture and even function of the object stem from corresponding characteristics of three fungi: *daldinia concentrica* (King Alfred's cake), *chlorociboria aeruginascens* (green wood cup), *kretzschmaria deusta* (brittle cinder) associated with three stages of oak decay: white oak, green-stained oak and bog oak.







Font

hand-carved sculpture

material: charred oak burr, cedar wood

dimensions: H70 xW70 x D70 cm





Cascet

sculptured box

material: hand-carved charred oak
burr

dimensions: H13 xW20 x D20 cm

Shape

Concept and design: Anna Bera
Material: alder wood, pine wood,
sycamore wood
Year: 2019-2020
Photos: Emilia Oksentowicz

The 'Shape' collection is a series of objects created simultaneously over the course of two years. They have no common theme or inspiration. It is more of a record of a way. An element loosely connecting this set of furniture is a process of creation, different from the way Anna has worked so far. This time, each of the objects has a completely different genesis. They share the abstract name 'Shape' which does not mean anything. This selection of objects is the result of both the frustration of a constrained mind and the sheer joy of becoming free from that limitation.





Shape N.4

site table and cabinet

material: hand-carved pine wood

dimensions: H754 x W40 x D40 cm





Shape N.5

site table and cabinet

material: sycamore wood

dimensions: H55 x W40 x D40 cm







Shape N.1

room screen

material: hand-carved alder wood

dimensions: H163 x W170 x D20 cm



Shape N.2

full size chair

material: alder wood

dimensions: H72 x W51 x D58 cm



Jamy

Concept and design: Anna Bera
Material: poplar, oak, ash wood
Year: 2020-2021
Photos: Emilia Oksentowicz, Oni
Studio

The furniture are designed to evoke primitive sculpture. The concept did not involve the subject, only the means of expression applied; the characteristic features, determining the character and appeal, such as verticality, or the compactness of the solid, which in primitive sculpture results from the fact that they are made of a single piece of wood, or the use of a certain material, e.g. soft wood instead of species considered noble in modern carpentry, or the use of specific techniques and tools of woodworking, such as an adze instead of a precision chisel.





Jama N.2

tall cabinet

material: hand-carved trunk,

poplar wood, oak wood, ash wood

dimensions: H175 x W47 x D43 cm







Jama N.1

tall cabinet

material: hand-carved trunk,

poplar wood, oak wood

dimensions: H160 x W42 x D42 cm



Object

Concept and design: Anna Bera

*Material: elm, oak, sycamore
maple, ash, red oak wood, glass,
polished steel*

Year: 2021-ongoing

*Photos: Emilia Okesntowicz, Marta
Pruska, Mili Studio, Oni Studio*

Creating the collection Anna Bera searches for a specific mode of existence of objects in space, a manner that is monumental and heavy, even ostentatious; where an object is something that appears suddenly and without justification, but its existence is indisputable. It exists as if it was unable to non-exist. It is only what it seems to be, though it could also be anything else. Bera plays with the form of a utility object. As a result of these considerations, she creates a collection of sculptures that may perform the functions of mirrors. The mirror pane glued outside causes the frame function to be degraded and the frame becomes useless. There is no reason why objects are what they are.





CD N.24

mirror

material: hand-carved sycamore

maple wood, polished steel

dimensions: H260 x W25 x D25 cm





CD N.31

mirror

material: red oak wood, glass

dimensions: H45 x W30 x D12 cm











CD N.28

mirror

material: ash and oak wood, glass
dimensions: H60 x W13,5 x D35 cm







CD N.2

mirror

material: elm wood, oak wood, glass

dimensions: H180 x W43 x D73 cm





CD N.29

mirror

material: oak wood, glass

dimensions: H121 x W27 x D110 cm





CD N.1

wall-hang mirror

material: hand-carved sycamore

maple, glass

dimensions: H66 x W49 x D13,5 cm







CD N.30

mirror

material: red oak wood, glass
dimensions: H45 x W30 x D34 cm







CD N.16

mirror

material: hand-carved red oak

wood, glass

dimensions: H134 x W86 x D96 cm



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Studio, Marta Pruska

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