

# Touch Wood

**AD100 firm Studio Organon's new hardwood furniture collection draws from memory to craft timeless pieces for the future.**

**F**or Saurabh Dakshini, memories are the best inspirations. His latest hardwood furniture collection, titled "Alpha & Beta", is the embodiment of this nostalgia, harking back to a time when objects were thoughtfully handcrafted to stand the test of time. "There's something special about hardwood furniture. Most often, changing the finish or making some minor repairs is all it takes to bring them back to life," says Dakshini, founder and principal architect of AD100 firm Studio Organon.

The collection—produced by seasoned craftsmen at Studio Organon's workshop in New Delhi—is divided into two lines, Alpha and Beta. The Alpha line is characteristic of stand-alone hero pieces, such as high and low chairs in ebónized oak and cane, storage boxes in white ash and sapele, and rocking stools in stained plywood. "Most pieces were happy experiments," says the architect. "I'd find a

piece of timber, play around with it and boom, something amazing would be born."

Meanwhile, the Beta line comprises more pared-back objects, including bookcases, tea cabinets, and racks, which can be teamed together or used independently. These objects are connected by a series of leitmotifs: subtle splays in the timber, restrained joinery, lean silhouettes. What both lines have in common is a deep sense of utility. "We designed the tea trolley and the rocking stool because we needed them in the office. The idea of selling them came much later," notes the architect.

As for the type of hardwood, Dakshini isn't particular. "When you make small batches of furniture, you can't keep a massive inventory of timber. I favour whatever is easily available and seasoned enough. I might imagine the same object in different timbers, depending on the availability," he says. While he routinely

ALPHA 01 HIGH AND LOW CHAIRS IN EBONIZED OAK, CANE WEAVE, AND BRASS, SERVE AS WELCOME PERCHES AROUND STUDIO ORGANON'S STUDIO SPACE IN NEW DELHI.



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