

Max McCance

Technorganic woodwork
and furniture maker

MaxMcCance.com



As a leading exponent of 'technorganic' design, the work of Max McCance draws inspiration from naturally occurring shapes, patterns and forms.

Max was raised and educated in Glasgow. In 1981 he moved to Italy, to study furniture, sculpture, and design, eventually setting up his own studio in Tuscany. In the late 1980s he travelled and worked in the USA before returning to Scotland to establish his present workshop and gallery.

Located in the beautiful North East Fife countryside, next to Birnie Loch Nature Reserve, his workshop is where he develops and produces all his work. Adjacent to the workshop is the Kinloch Gallery, where many unique pieces are displayed and for sale directly to collectors and the public.



Introduction

'I'm fascinated by overcoming technical problems. I start with the limitations of "table" or "cabinet" and then within those boundaries, see how far I can go with it. I like to push those boundaries. What is a piece of furniture; what is a piece of art? Can the two be combined?'

Max McCance

The following pages show a selection of recent work by acclaimed technorganic furniture maker Max McCance.

Max's work spans some 30 years and can be split into three collections: The Flora Collection, The Fauna Collection, and The Cosmos Collection. His work draws its inspiration from science and the natural world, from the galactic scale to the subatomic. These influences flow through the work and often take on meanings of their own.

While this document showcases a short selection of Max's work, you can find a wider range of projects at his website, **maxmccance.com** — or you can visit his gallery in rural Fife. More details can be found at the end of this booklet.

'Most covetable... Ingenious... Splendid.'

The Herald

The Flora Collection

Inspired by shapes and textures found in nature, The Flora Collection draws from plant forms such as cones, seeds, leaves, and thorns.

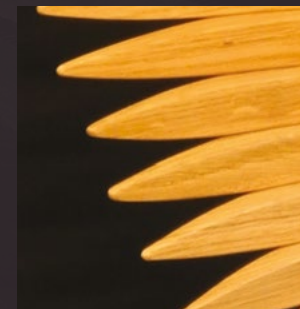
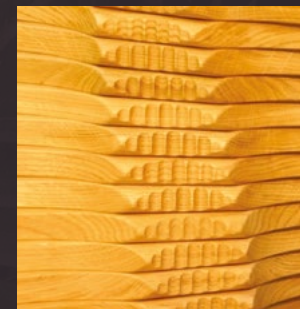


The 180 Table

Material: Teak

Dimensions: 92cm x 42cm

Each of the thirty-eight pieces in the column of this table is offset by 4.7°, resulting in a 180° rotation from bottom to top. People see different things. One of the most common for this table is a sail, or a spine.



The Mojave Table

Material: Fumed oak and maple
Dimensions: 81cm x 52cm x 52cm

After visiting the Mojave Desert in Southern California, Max was struck by the beauty of the cacti, which inspired him to make this table. The cactus thorns are extremely sharp, and as a result he decided to encase the maple structure behind toughened glass.



The Chaos Table

Material: Fumed oak
Dimensions: 93cm x 42cm

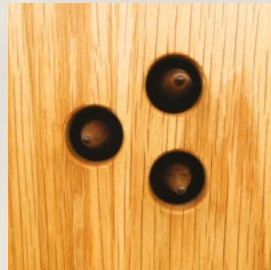
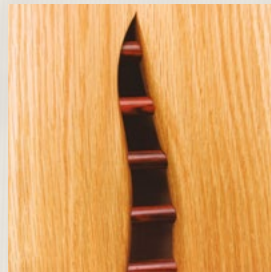
When making this table, Max discovered that making the protruding spikes in the central column appear random inevitably produced a pattern. We now know that this is in fact true, according to Chaos Theory. It takes careful positioning to create the illusion of randomness.



'A new twist in Scottish furniture.'
The Scotsman

The Fauna Collection

The Fauna Collection draws on animal forms such as crustaceans, insects, mammals and birds, as well as taking a particular focus on the human experience and body.

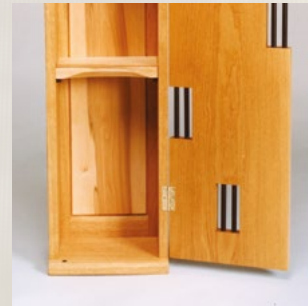
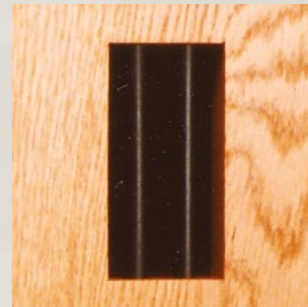


The Amnesty Cabinet

Material: Oak and ebony

Dimensions: 94cm x 30cm x 20cm

This cabinet was commissioned as a gift for someone who worked for Amnesty International. The vertical ebony 'bars' are reminiscent of prison cells.

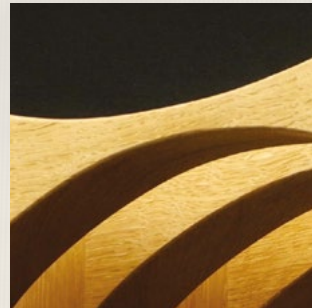
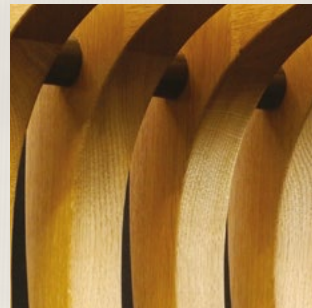


The Crab Stool

Material: Oak and lignum vitae

Dimensions: 41cm x 52cm x 23cm

Max wanted to make a stool that looked fragile, but was in fact incredibly strong and comfortable. It looks like it is perched, almost like a crab, ready to scuttle away, giving it a dynamism and energy which contradicts its purpose.

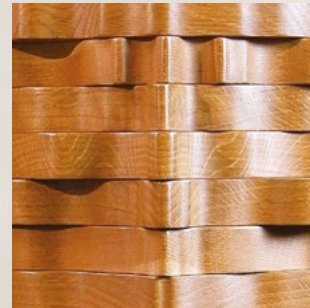
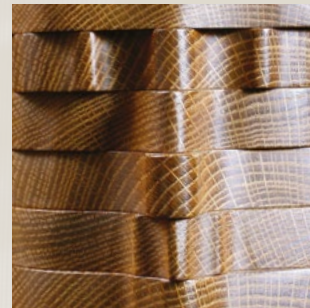


The Oak Heads

Material: Fumed oak

Dimensions: Various sizes

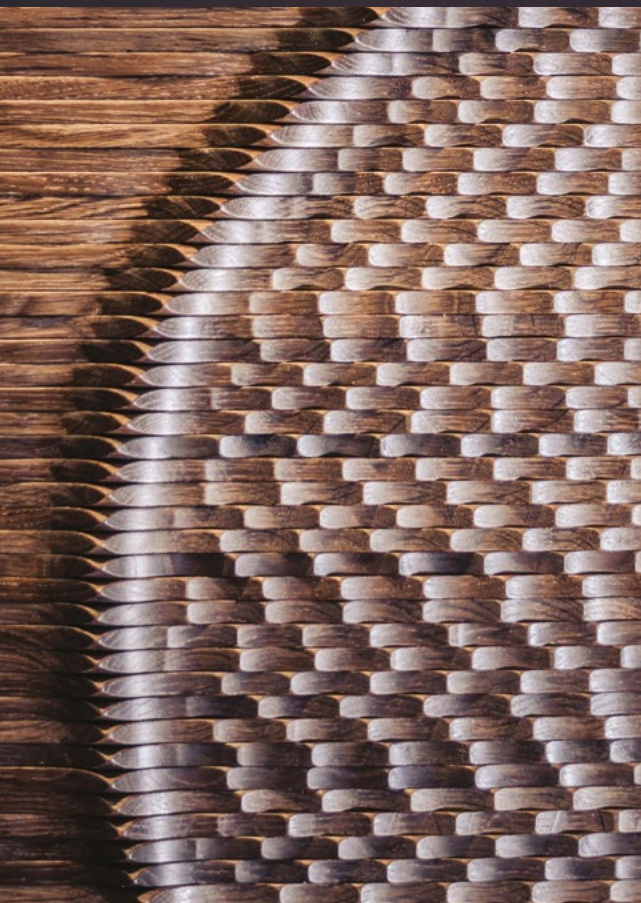
Made to commission, The Oak Heads are made in various sizes and materials. Some are feminine and others masculine. Each layer is individually shaped by hand. This was the start of Max's experimentation with layers, which continues to this day.



'Furnishing Proof that Wood is Art.'
The Sunday Times

The Cosmos Collection

The Cosmos Collection draws from celestial influences and uses carefully selected materials to tell their stories.

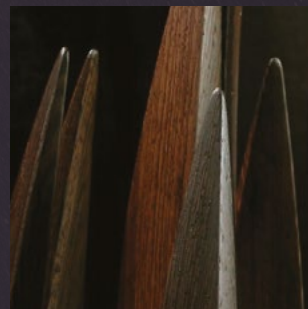
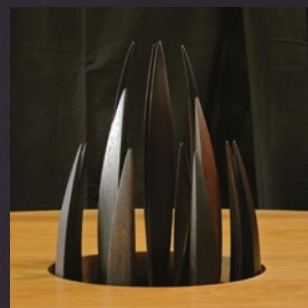


Dining Table for Eight

Material: Oak and wenge

Dimensions: 74cm x 170cm

This was a commission for an eight-seater dining table. There are sixteen wenge 'fronds' of varying lengths stretching from the base, up through the top, forming a tulip-shaped permanent centrepiece.

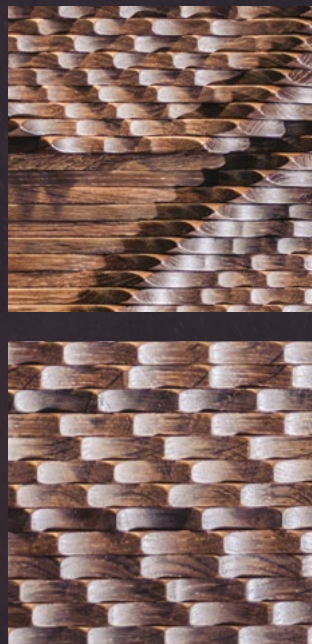


The Cosmos Cabinet

Material: Fumed oak

Dimensions: 91cm x 43cm x 16cm

This piece draws its imagery from pictures collected by the Hubble Space Telescope. The door is composed of sixty-eight pieces, each one carefully marked out and sawn, then spoke shaved and individually sanded into shape by hand.



The Capstan Table

Material: Oak and bubinga

Dimensions: 92cm x 46cm

There are thirteen components that make up each layer of this table, totalling over three hundred pieces in all.



Workshop and gallery

You can find many current and past projects on display at Kinloch Gallery, located in North East Fife.

Kinloch Gallery provides a fantastic visitor experience. It is located next to Birnie Loch Nature Reserve, a great place to walk, picnic, and view wildlife. The collections on display change regularly, with all projects available for purchase.

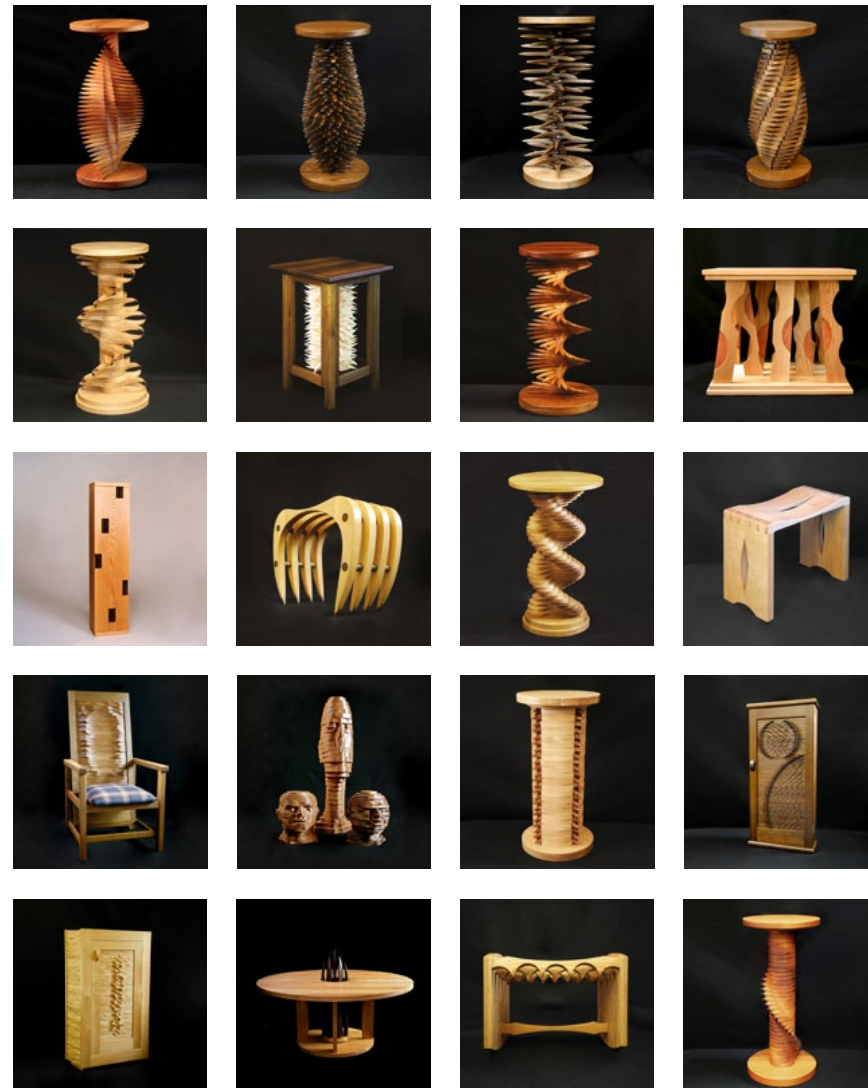
For opening times and information, please visit maxmccance.com

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Overview of work



Thank you

For enquiries, please contact
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