



Furniture: making and meaning

Friday May 17th

Hochhauser Auditorium, Sackler Centre

10.30 - 17.30

To celebrate the opening of the V&A's new Dr. Susan Weber Gallery of Furniture, this one-day symposium investigates furniture materials, making and design. Looking at the relationships between materials, techniques, and a wider culture of use, the symposium will address questions of technological development, adaptation, trade and cross-cultural exchange. A panel of leading designers will discuss the relationship between design and making.

10.00	Registration
10.30	Welcome
10.35	A Furniture Gallery for the V&A <i>Leela Meinertas & Nick Humphrey</i>
10.50	Object in focus: French 18 th - century jewel cabinet (live stream discussion) <i>Carolyn Sargentson, & Dana Melchar.</i>
11.20	Refreshments
11.40	Object in focus: 19 th - century Japanese lacquer box (live stream discussion) <i>Shayne Rivers and Julia Hutt</i>
12.10	The political economy of French furniture woods <i>Adam Bowett</i>
12.45	Lunch (not provided)
14.00	Shagreen: from fashionable accessories to furniture <i>Christine Guth</i>
14.30	The material culture of plywood <i>Christopher Wilk</i>
15.00	Questions & Discussion
15.20	Refreshments
15.40	Designing and making <i>Joris Laarman; Julia Lohmann; Gareth Neal;</i> Presentations from designers followed by discussion led by <i>Glenn Adamson</i>
17.15	Audience discussion and reflections