

**PETER DUNDAS**

**SURFACE**

ISSUE 106  
MARCH 2014

SPRING FASHION





## UP AND COMING **Anton Alvarez**

It's been less than two years since Anton Alvarez introduced the world to his Royal College of Art graduation project—a method of making furniture using a spinning ring to lash materials together with glue-soaked thread—but the Stockholm-based designer is already finding ways to rethink the process. For his first major solo show at London's Gallery Libby Sellers, on view through April 17, Alvarez developed two new iterations of his so-called Thread-Wrapped pieces. The first is a series of lamps, stools, and free-form structures that are “more naked,” says Alvarez, who trained as a cabinetmaker before attending graduate school. “In woodworking, the joint is central. I was so proud of my thread-wrapped joint that it started to take over the whole piece, so now I've tried to pull it back a bit, just joining where I really need to.” The second group of objects is “more painterly,” he says, thanks to colorful pigments he has mixed into his glue. “They're more messy and dripping. I like that they look almost thrown together, like they have a lot of energy in them.” In May, Alvarez will attempt to push the process's limits even further for a live installation at Sweden's Gustavsbergs Konsthall, where he'll spend four months building an abstract thread-wrapped structure that will reach toward the space's 20-foot ceiling; the designer will improvise the shape as he creates it. “I'm just trying to commit to this process and see how far it can go,” he says. —**Monica Khemsurov**, co-founder of the website **Sight Unseen**