

*Bazaar Interiors has become a work of art, thanks to Belgian designer JENS PRAET, Design Days Dubai and the Mint Museum*



**Visitors to the Mint Museum in Charlotte, North Carolina can now view Jens Praet's Shredded Table, a collectible console that was commissioned by Design Days Dubai**

and produced on-site during the fair's 2013 edition. The acquisition was announced in March 2014 during the last edition of Design Days Dubai. A Belgian native now based in Siena, Italy, Praet is known for work which marries traditional craftsmanship with cutting-edge techniques and conceptual ideology. The table comes from the "Shredded" series that Praet began as a research project in 2007-2008 – a series that reflects on the amount of paper that is used and discarded in today's industrialized society. "What I always like is that people gradually find out what the material really is, as the surface might look like granite if you superficially observe the object," he said. "Once people understand the material, their reaction is quite often an understanding of what else can be done with paper waste, or just waste in general. Waste can be turned into something useful and hopefully aesthetic."

# THE SHREDDED TABLE

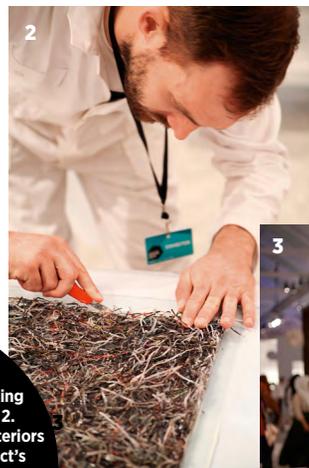
Praet embedded shredded paper in resin and created it around a hidden aluminum frame. The result was a piece of

furniture whose material origin is clearly obvious. The piece was produced as part of four-day performance during the last edition of Design Days Dubai during the public programming of the fair, using old magazine copies of *Harper's Bazaar Interiors*. The piece was donated to The Mint Museum by the fair organizers, with the artist's presence at the event made possible by the Industry Gallery of Washington D.C. and Los Angeles.

"The table has a pure line that endows it with a noble look, even with the complexity of its texture made from shredded magazines," says Cyril Zammit, Design Days Dubai's Fair Director. "This is a piece that shows how design can be used to find solutions to current problems as well as

develop new ways of thinking." The table does exactly that: it creates an elegant and useful design object from everyday humble material, an attestation to the beauty of simplicity.

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1. Harper's Bazaar Interiors Issue 10. The making of the "Shredded Table". 2. Shredded Harper's Bazaar Interiors magazines before the object's completion. 3. Design Days Dubai's Fair Director Cyril Zammit with His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum.