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INSPIRATION



Bethan Laura Wood with her Hot Rock marquetry cabinets.

BETHAN LAURA WOOD

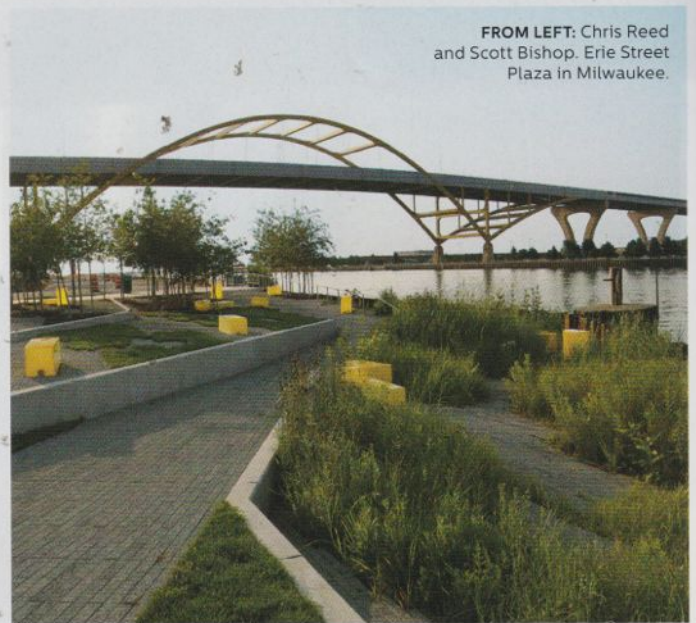
"As a designer," says Bethan Laura Wood, "you never know whether you're doing too much or not enough." Wood could never be accused of the latter—her output since graduating from the Royal Academy of Art in 2009 has been prodigious. The 30-year-old London-based designer, whose personal style is as colorful and wildly patterned as her work, is best known for her startling, postmodern rendering of the old-school marquetry technique in plastic laminate, treating the decidedly mass-market material as if it were rare wood or semiprecious stone. Lately Wood has been experimenting with glass at artist-in-residence programs in Venice, and in Mexico City as one of the 2013 W Hotels Designers of the Future; for the latter she produced the Criss-Cross chandelier, influenced by both Aztec and Art Deco forms. And she has recently ventured into the textile realm, creating an embroidered piece for an exhibition in Milan that was sponsored by the Danish company Kvadrat to celebrate the 30th anniversary of its classic wool fabric, Divina. As Wood explains, "I've always made a mixture of work, media, and scales." woodlondon.co.uk.



STOSS LANDSCAPE URBANISM

Stoss Landscape Urbanism, the Boston firm run by Chris Reed and Scott Bishop, operates on the belief that "landscape ecology can be a motivator for how we think about the city," says Reed. Stoss won a 2012 National Design Award for its work, which includes multipurpose waterfront parks in Milwaukee and Green Bay, Wisconsin; the landscape design for

Renzo Piano's addition to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston; and the Plaza at Harvard University. The team transformed the broad but barren walkway on the Cambridge, Massachusetts, campus into a vibrant social hub for both students and the greater community, which hosts a farmers' market and performances. Stoss is currently competing to plan BMW's corporate campus in Munich (in collaboration with the architect Clive Wilkinson), and working on landscaping for an office tower in Turkey. Reed believes that landscape architects are "recovering their role as city-makers," the result being that "cities will become more vibrant, healthier places, from an environmental standpoint as well as an urbanistic one." stoss.net.



FROM LEFT: Chris Reed and Scott Bishop. Erie Street Plaza in Milwaukee.