



ARNODECLERCQ

ZOUMEY SCULPTURE

[ENGLISH] UNIQUE PIECE

CRAFTED FROM PLATE STEEL, WELDED TOGETHER WITH 112 FACETS, AND INDIVIDUALLY POLISHED AND PATINATED WITH FIRE, THE ZOUMEY SCULPTURE STANDS AS A TESTAMENT TO THE ARTISTIC SKILLS OF ARNO DECLERCQ'S ATELIERS. DEVELOPED AND CREATED BETWEEN JANUARY AND MARCH OF 2024, EACH FACET BEARS THE MARK OF CRAFTSMANSHIP.

INSPIRED BY HIS PREVIOUS WORKS AND ROOTED IN THE FOUNDATIONAL ZOUMEY TABLES, ARNO EMBARKED ON A JOURNEY TO MAGNIFY THE FORM INTO VOLUMINOUS SCULPTURE, DELIBERATELY STRIPPING AWAY STABILITY WHILE RETAINING A PLAYFUL DANCE WITH GRAVITY.

THE NAME "ZOUMEY" FINDS RESONANCE ACROSS ARNO'S OEUVRE, PREDOMINANTLY MADE IN IROKO WOOD SOURCED FROM BENIN, WEST AFRICA. THIS WOOD, DISCOVERED DURING TRAVELS WITH HIS FATHER AMIDST THE RICH HISTORY OF VODOO ARTS, HOLDS A PROFOUND SIGNIFICANCE. IT EPITOMIZES A CULTURE DEEPLY ENTWINED WITH NATURE AND SPIRITS, SHAPING THE ESSENCE OF DAILY EXISTENCE FOR THE LOCAL POPULACE.

IN THE HEART OF BENIN, THE TERM "ZOUMEY" TRANSCENDS MERE NOMENCLATURE; IT SYMBOLIZES THE DENSE, MYSTICAL FORESTS OF IROKO TREES. WITNESSING THE HARVESTED TIMBER AMASSED IN COLOSSAL PILES, ARNO FOUND HIMSELF CAPTIVATED BY THE ORGANIC, ALMOST SURREAL SCULPTURES IT INADVERTENTLY FORMED. HUMBLE IN ITS SILENCE, YET POSSESSING A RAW, UNYIELDING BEAUTY, THESE SHAPES EMBODIED PERFECT EQUILIBRIUM AMIDST THE CHAOS OF NATURE.

THE ZOUMEY SCULPTURE, THUS, EMERGES NOT ONLY AS A MANIFESTATION OF ARTISTIC VISION BUT ALSO AS A HOMAGE TO THE HARMONIOUS INTERPLAY BETWEEN CULTURE, NATURE, AND SPIRIT THAT RESONATES THROUGH ARNO DECLERCQ'S CAPTIVATING CREATIONS.

ZOUMEY SCULPTURE

[FRANÇAIS] PIÈCE UNIQUE

CONFECTIONNÉE EN ACIER PLAQUE, SOUDÉE AVEC 112 FACETTES, ET INDIVIDUELLEMENT POLIE ET PATINÉE AVEC LE FEU, LA SCULPTURE ZOUMEY TÉMOIGNE DES COMPÉTENCES ARTISTIQUES DES ATELIERS D'ARNO DECLERCQ. DÉVELOPPÉE ET CRÉÉE ENTRE JANVIER ET MARS 2024, CHAQUE FACETTE PORTE LA MARQUE DU SAVOIR-FAIRE.

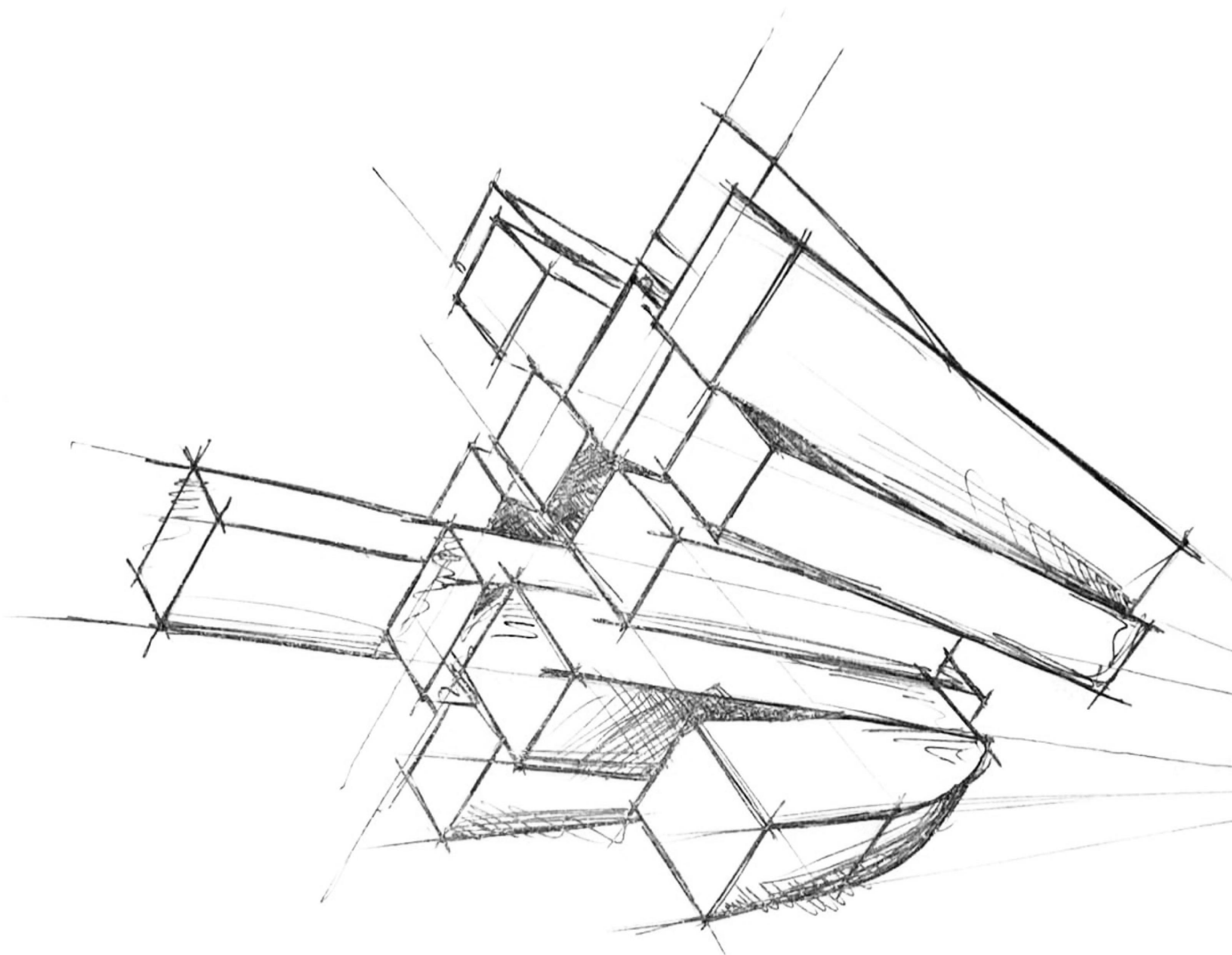
INSPIRÉ PAR SES ŒUVRES PRÉCÉDENTES ET ENRACINÉ DANS LES TABLES FONDATRICES ZOUMEY, ARNO S'EST LANCÉ DANS UN VOYAGE POUR MAGNIFIER LA FORME EN UNE SCULPTURE VOLUMINEUSE, EN RETIRANT DÉLIBÉRÉMENT LA STABILITÉ TOUT EN CONSERVANT UNE DANSE JOYEUSE AVEC LA GRAVITÉ.

LE NOM "ZOUMEY" RÉSONNE À TRAVERS L'ŒUVRE D'ARNO, PRINCIPALEMENT RÉALISÉE EN BOIS D'IROKO SOURCÉ DU BÉNIN, EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST. CE BOIS, DÉCOUVERT LORS DE VOYAGES AVEC SON PÈRE AU MILIEU DE LA RICHE HISTOIRE DES ARTS DU VAUDOY, A UNE SIGNIFICATION PROFONDE. IL INCARNE UNE CULTURE PROFONDÉMENT LIÉE À LA NATURE ET AUX ESPRITS, FAÇONNANT L'ESSENCE DE L'EXISTENCE QUOTIDIENNE POUR LA POPULATION LOCALE.

AU CŒUR DU BÉNIN, LE TERME "ZOUMEY" TRANSCENDE LA SIMPLE NOMENCLATURE ; IL SYMBOLISE LES FORÊTS DENSES ET MYSTIQUES DES ARBRES D'IROKO. EN VOYANT LE BOIS RÉCOLTÉ AMASSÉ EN PILES COLOSSALES, ARNO S'EST TROUVÉ CAPTIVÉ PAR LES SCULPTURES ORGANIQUES, PRESQUE SURREALISTES, QU'IL FORMAIT INADVERTANCEMENT. HUMBLE DANS SON SILENCE, MAIS POSSESSANT UNE BEAUTÉ BRUTE ET INÉBRANLABLE, CES FORMES INCARNAIENT UN ÉQUILIBRE PARFAIT AU MILIEU DU CHAOS DE LA NATURE.

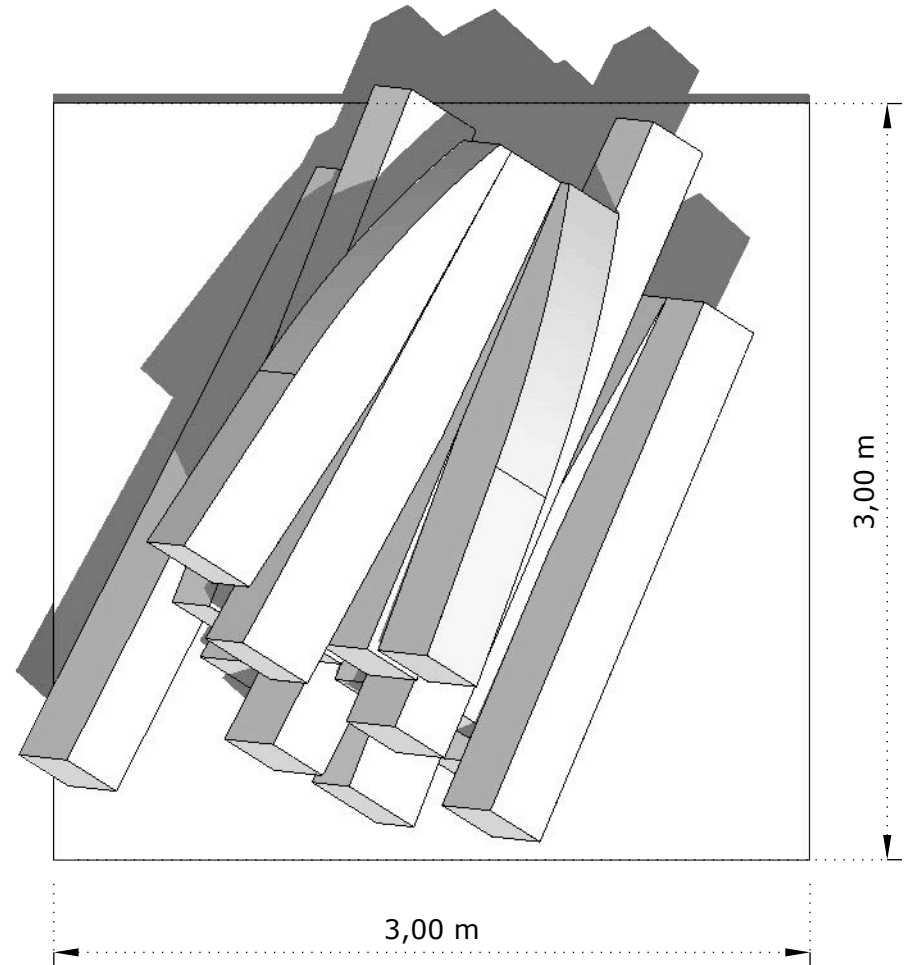
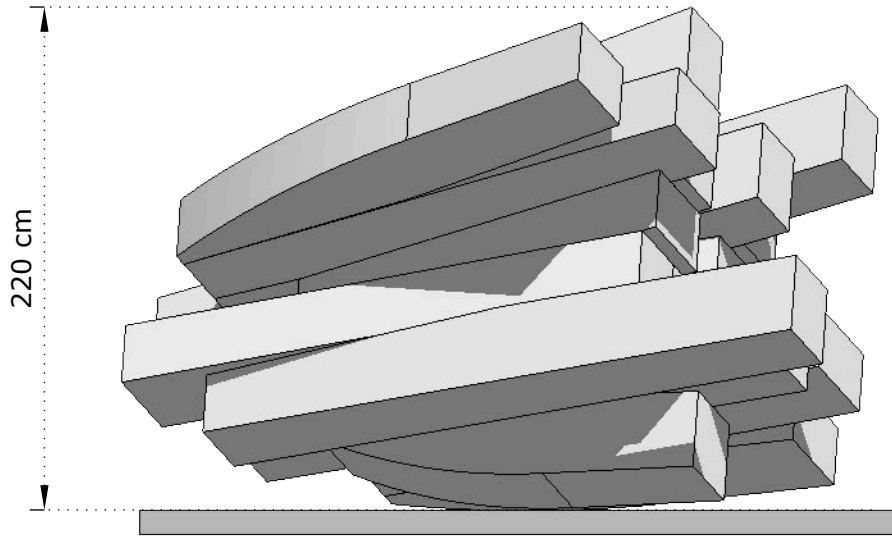
AINSI, LA SCULPTURE ZOUMEY ÉMERGE NON SEULEMENT COMME UNE MANIFESTATION DE VISION ARTISTIQUE, MAIS AUSSI COMME UN HOMMAGE À L'INTERPLAY HARMONIEUX ENTRE CULTURE, NATURE ET ESPRIT QUI RÉSONNE À TRAVERS LES CRÉATIONS CAPTIVANTES D'ARNO DECLERCQ.







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SCALE 1|30







ARNO DECLERCQ

BORN IN 1994, IS A BELGIAN DESIGNER AND ART DEALER RENOWNED FOR HIS MINIMALIST AND FUNCTIONAL FURNITURE DESIGNS, METICULOUSLY CRAFTED TO HARMONIZE WITH CONTEMPORARY, SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES. DRAWING FROM A RICH PALETTE OF NATURAL MATERIALS INCLUDING WOOD, LEATHER, AND STONE, DECLERCQ'S FURNITURE SEAMLESSLY MELTS WITH DIVERSE ENVIRONMENTS WHILE RETAINING ITS DISTINCTIVE ESSENCE AND CHARACTER.

INFLUENCED WITHIN A FAMILY STEEPED IN THE TRADITIONS OF AESTHETICS AND CRAFTSMANSHIP, ARNO INHERITED A PROFOUND REVERENCE FOR DESIGN AND AMBIANCE FROM HIS PARENTS. HIS FATHER'S IMMERSION IN THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS FASHION DEPARTMENT IMBUED HIM WITH A KEEN EYE FOR BEAUTY, WHILE HIS MOTHER'S BOUTIQUE, SHOWCASING AVANT-GARDE BRANDS SUCH AS RICK OWENS, ANN DEMEULEMEESTER, AND MAISON MARTIN MARGIELA.

INSPIRED BY HIS PARENTS, ARNO PURSUED INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIES, EVENTUALLY ESTABLISHING HIS OWN GALLERY SPECIALIZING IN ETHNOGRAPHIC ART AND DESIGN. TRANSITIONING TO CREATING BESPOKE PIECES SINCE 2017, HE GARNERED ATTENTION THROUGH STRATEGIC UTILIZATION OF SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS AND COLLABORATIVE VENTURES. HIS COLLECTIONS, STEEPED IN THE GRANDEUR OF BYGONE INTERIORS, MIXING INFLUENCES FROM ARCHITECTURAL BUNKERS, ANCIENT ART FORMS, AND DIVERSE TRIBAL CULTURES.

ARNO DEDICATES HIMSELF TO OFFERING HIS COLLECTIONS IN CUSTOM SIZES, ALONGSIDE PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE INTERIOR DECORATION SERVICES. HE ENGAGED IN BENEFIT AUCTIONS AND CO-FOUNDED BARANZATE ATELIER, EXTENDING HIS REACH TO LUXURY BRANDS LIKE FENDI, SAINT LAURENT, AND HENNESSY ASWEL HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS.

IN NOVEMBER 2023, RECOGNIZING THE EVOLVING LANDSCAPE, ARNO UNVEILED THE GRANDEUR OF A PRIVATE 500 SQUARE METER SHOWROOM WITHIN THE HEART OF ANTWERP, BELGIUM. THIS EXCLUSIVE SPACE OFFERS CLIENTS INTO AN IMMERSIVE JOURNEY THROUGH HIS SIGNATURE AESTHETIC, FOSTERING PROFOUND CONNECTIONS TO HIS VISIONARY ETHOS. SINCE ITS LAUNCH IN FEBRUARY 2024, ARNO HAS CURATED EVENTS SHOWCASING THE WORK OF FELLOW ARTISTS, CREATING INTIMATE EXPERIENCES FOR A WELL-SELECTED AUDIENCE.

ZOUMEY SCULPTURE
UNIQUE PIECE

MADE IN 2,5MM STEEL BURNED PATINA

220 CM W X 290 CM L X 220 CM H

87" W X 114" L X 87" H

960 KG / 2110 LBS

PRICE ON REQUEST

