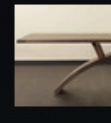
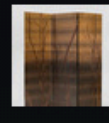
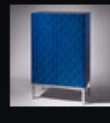
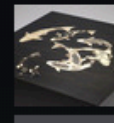


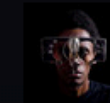
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## Zelouf+Bell's award-winning furniture

Chic bespoke creations hewn from premium woods, from Irish bog oak to ripple sycamore



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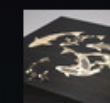
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FURNITURE | THE BESPOKESPERSON

Zelouf+Bell's award-winning furniture

SEPTEMBER 03 2014  
CHRISTINA OHLY EVANS

On a County Laois country road in the Irish midlands is the bustling workshop of Susan Zelouf and Michael Bell, the award-winning American-Irish creative team behind Zelouf+Bell. The duo's bespoke, solid-wood contemporary furnishings can be found in homes in New York, Paris and Tokyo, as well as in Irish embassies around the globe and in the National Museum of Ireland's permanent collection.

Private commissions begin with a meeting to discuss ideas and kickstart "an intimate process that requires a leap of faith", say the duo, who have a combined background in engineering and the arts. Hand-drawn renderings, wood and marquetry samples (as well as models where necessary) are then created, and Zelouf and Bell assemble a team of artisans – cabinetmakers, stained-glass artists, chinoiserie experts – to collaborate on commissions.

Hardwoods such as maple, oak, walnut and wenge are used alongside more unusual examples, such as ancient Irish bog oak and ripple sycamore (example, €41,100, second picture), while the pieces themselves range from sideboards and stylish cocktail cabinets to Asian-inspired screens inlaid inlaid with exquisite marquetry (€30,800, third picture). Standout creations include a sleek Span table (€20,540, fourth picture) – inspired by a Dublin bridge – games tables with chess and backgammon boards (€24,650) and Koi Noir low tables in varying sizes (from €27,730, first picture). Commissions take 10 to 16 weeks, with high-gloss lacquer finishes slightly longer.

"We make practical, elegant pieces that are built to endure," says Zelouf. Indeed, through the generations, one hopes.

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(+3531-441 9222; [www.zeloufandbell.com](http://www.zeloufandbell.com)), by appointment.