

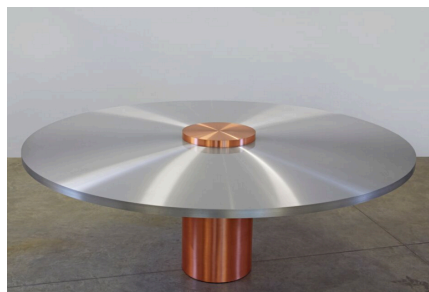
PAUL COCKSEGE

FREEZE

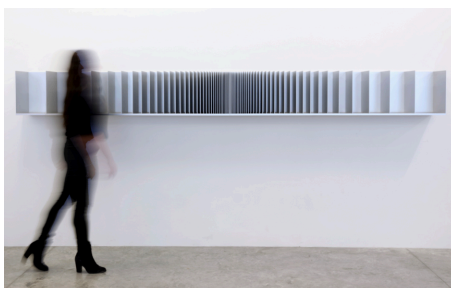
SECOND SOLO EXHIBITION IN THE USA

October 29 to December 23, 2015

Friedman Benda Gallery



Freeze Round Table, 2015



Rhythm Shelf, 2015



Freeze Multi-Circle Table, 2015

What fascinates me here is that everything constantly expands and contracts, but imperceptibly. Everything from earth and water, to our own bodies and skins, even the universe itself. The pieces that make up Freeze are certainly large, heavy and solid, but that makes it all the more extraordinary that they are simply held up by an invisible join, 'frozen together' by forces we can't even perceive.

– Paul Cocksedge, on his *Freeze* series

New York, NY [September 22, 2015] – Friedman Benda announces its second major exhibition of works by Paul Cocksedge in the United States. For his new show, Cocksedge presents three series of objects representing a continuation of a recurring theme in his work: to achieve simplicity in the use of materials, with minimal interference, while harnessing the forces of nature and letting innate properties play out in ways not seen before.

“Freeze”

In *Freeze*, Cocksedge exploits freezing temperatures to create a seamless bond between metals that otherwise do not adhere in nature. The breakthrough in the series—a table of copper and aluminum—was made by first burying four copper legs in snow, leaving them to contract by 0.002 of a millimeter; second, excavating the legs and inserting them into holes cut into an aluminum slab where they were allowed to un-freeze back to ambient temperature thereby firmly locking into place in a strong, invisible join.

Further calibrating temperatures and tolerances of various shapes, forms, and metals, Cocksedge went on to create an entire body of exquisitely precise, balanced, and seemingly impossible works; each incorporating a stunning range of metals that appear to float together, magically.

“Slice”

The concept for the *Slice* series of furniture began with a simple idea: to have a table make itself, with only the slightest guidance, based on the properties of its raw material. For this, Cocksedge imagined a transparent cast acrylic block of material sliced from either side. When heat was then applied to the block, the force of gravity formed the legs and the *Slice* stool was born. Other forms followed.

Slice (like *Freeze*) is a process that involves precision engineering, but the process of its making is as transparent as the material itself—its simplicity of idea belies its complexity.

“Rhythm Shelf”

The inspiration for *Rhythm Shelf* came from looking at an untidy bookshelf. Ironically, by sketching a series of vertical lines on a sheet of paper mirroring the disorder, a certain *rhythm* started to emerge for Cocksedge. Extrapolating on the theme, he created a 3.6-meter *Rhythm* bookshelf that holds everything from the largest volumes to a poem on a single piece of paper. With 68 dividers, the long range and unexpected variance compels the viewer like waves rippling off a vibrating wire.

About Paul Cocksedge

Paul Cocksedge was born in London in 1978, and received an MFA from the Royal College of Art in Production Design, and a BFA in Industrial Design from Sheffield Hallam University. In 2014, Cocksedge was the recipient of the Moët Hennessy PAD London annual prize for best design for his *Poised* table. His work has been exhibited internationally and can be found in major public collections worldwide, including MoMA, New York; V&A, London; London Design Museum, UK; and the Museum of Arts and Design, NY.

With over 10 years experience and a strong team of collaborators, London-based Paul Cocksedge Studio has developed a unique reputation for thoroughly original and innovative design, underpinned by research into the limits of technology, materials and manufacturing processes. The studio's catalogue includes an imaginative range of design products, architectural projects and sculptures, all infused with the sense of simplicity, joy and wonder that has come to characterize Paul Cocksedge's work.

About Friedman Benda

Friedman Benda is a gallery dedicated to presenting established and emerging designers who create historically significant work and are at the forefront of their practice. Founded in 2007, the gallery's exhibitions and publications have played a vital role in the rise of the design market and education, and take a comprehensive approach to work that intersects the fields of design, craft and art. Friedman Benda represents an international roster of designers spanning four continents and multiple generations.

For further information please visit www.friedmanbenda.com

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