

# outside

10 Ashland, North Adams MA

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*grass, wood*

**BRIAN PERISCO + HANNAH HAWORTH**

On view Sept 28th - Nov 19th, 2018

Opening Reception Friday, Sept 28th, 6-8pm

outside is pleased to present *grass, wood*, an exhibition featuring American furniture designer Brian Perisco and Scottish artist and textile designer Hannah Haworth. Brian and Hannah's work is distinguished by their unique obsession with vernacular materials, histories, and traditional slow processes. These passions, paired with their distinct design sense and desire for utility, result in objects and artifacts of simple beauty and function.

After some time spent speculating and dreaming, Brian and Hannah moved their lives to a secluded 16 acres of woodland in the Northern Catskill Mountains of NY. Over the past 3 years, they have built themselves a house by hand in the spirit of its setting, taking cues from the regional materials and the vernacular history of the area.

*grass, wood* presents pieces and artifacts from Brian and Hannah's individual practices, alongside new collaborative work grown from the process of building themselves a home. The centerpiece of the exhibition is a chair, made with strong reference to the traditional Orkney chairs from the north of Scotland, that brings together Brian's expertise in crafting furniture and Hannah's expertise in weaving.



“One of the challenges we’ve enjoyed the most is making our house resilient to the long, cold winter using materials from the land around us. Once realizing that the natural environment has all that we need, it became a game of collecting and manipulating materials and developing our own skills to obtain comfort during the cold season. And so, of course, very naturally, our house was designed and built around our wood stove; its hearth becoming a centerpiece in our winter life.

Around the hearth, many more projects took shape and so objects began to appear. The chair became the largest of these, stemming from the desire to make the warmest pocket within our house. It is built from the world directly outside our door with wood and grasses we harvested during the summer. It’s shape is reminiscent of a cocoon, designed to be placed in front of the fire, circulating the heat around its user. We created it with strong reference to the traditional old Orkney chairs from the North of Scotland, whose simple earthy materials and emphasis on function resonated so deeply with us, bringing to mind our dreams and goals that moved us to the mountaintop.”

**BRIAN PERISCO** is an American furniture designer. He makes furniture and a small line of functional objects from his studio in the Catskills where he lives with his wife and frequent collaborator Hannah Haworth. Inspired by natural materials and informed by craft throughout history, each piece is one of a kind and carefully made by hand – he is known for creating simple and functional work that will last.

**HANNAH HAWORTH** is a Scottish artist living and working in New York. Her work is influenced by indigenous culture + craft and its connection with the natural world. She is interested in the ritual and repetition of painstakingly long processes. Hannah is the founder of Handa, a handmade textile company where she works in close collaboration with the indigenous Mangyan people of the Philippines whom she grew up with. Together they use ancient, traditional processes and materials to create utilitarian objects.

