

FRIEDMAN BENDA  
515 W 26TH STREET  
NEW YORK NY 10001

RAPHAEL NAVOT  
ON THE SAME SUBJECT  
OCT 27 – DEC 10 2022



Raphael Navot, Admix Desk, 2022

**New York** – Friedman Benda is pleased to present, *On the Same Subject*, Raphael Navot’s first solo gallery exhibition. *On the Same Subject* marks the culmination of an ongoing four-year collaboration with the gallery and serves as a commentary on Navot’s own evolution as a designer.

A polymath designer acclaimed for his retail and hospitality spaces and private residences, Navot references his own daily drawing practice to liberate himself from preconceived expectations. Free to question every step and choice in the creative process, Navot uses this opportunity to reflect on the rigorous journey from first concept to realized physical work. “By forgetting the destination and reversing the method, you’re leaving the intention to navigate around the many facets of the same subject,” he states.

One of the rising form-givers in the field, Navot communicates through a collective language harnessing the power of universal symbolic archetypes. An homage to the natural world, this series features a dialogue between handcraft and the natural landscape—referring to the very origins of furniture: “a pile of rounded rocks that invites sitting, a supported sliced pebble that becomes a usable surface. These compositions consider the idea of comfort as both mental and physical,” Navot states.

The final body of work on view synthesizes a myriad of artistic decisions: proportion, volume, material, palette, construction, motif. Pairing European traditional craftsmanship with cutting-edge technology such as robotics and 3D printing, this body of work symbolizes the next frontier of high craft with materials ranging from bronze, wood, fossil stone, to eco-resin and recycled PLA.

#### **About Raphael Navot**

Born in 1977 in Jerusalem, Raphael Navot graduated from the Design Academy Eindhoven with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Conceptual Design in 2003. After graduation, Navot established his own studio in Paris to explore design and interior architecture. A multidisciplinary designer, his notable projects such as David Lynch’s Club Silencio, Hôtel National des Arts et Métiers, Le 39V restaurant in Paris, the Belle Plage hotel in Cannes, and the library and art gallery at the Domaine des Etangs estate in Massignac, France. Navot has collaborated with brands such as Alessi, Cappellini, Venini, Loro Piana, and Roche Bobois for which he won the 2020 Elle Deco International Design award. He lives and works in Paris, France.

#### **About Friedman Benda**

Friedman Benda identifies and advances key narratives that intersect contemporary design, craft, architecture, fine art, and cutting-edge technological research. The gallery promotes synthesis between leading creative thinkers and makers by creating opportunities to advance new connections within the global design community. Friedman Benda is committed to a critical view of design history. We aim to expand the design dialogue from its

established sources, exploring perspectives that have previously been marginalized. Spanning five continents and four generations, Friedman Benda represents a roster of seminal established and emerging designers, as well as historically significant estates. With locations in New York and Los Angeles, the gallery's exhibitions, publications and collaborations with institutions have played a vital role in the development of the contemporary design market and scholarship since 2007. For further information please visit [www.friedmanbenda.com](http://www.friedmanbenda.com) and the gallery's Instagram [@friedman\\_benda](https://www.instagram.com/friedman_benda) and [YouTube channel](#).

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**Media Contacts:**

Blue Medium, Inc.

Michelle DiLello

[michelle@bluemedium.com](mailto:michelle@bluemedium.com)

T: +1 (212) 675-1800

Friedman Benda

Carole Hochman

[carole@friedmanbenda.com](mailto:carole@friedmanbenda.com)

T: +1 (212) 239-8700