

Mattias Selldén
TRÄSKALLE

Mattias Selldén's showroom presentation, *Träskalle*, opens at Galerie Nordenhake on November 7. Working primarily in wood and by hand, Selldén allows the works to emerge through labour, repetition, and direct engagement with the material.

Selldén's creative process happens *through his hands*, through the feel of wood, tools, and materials, rather than from a pre-formed concept or intellectual plan. The artist's thinking is embodied and material; he understands and develops ideas by *doing, handling, and making*.

Influenced by the writings of Sven Lindqvist¹, whose reflections accompany the artist like a quiet dialogue partner, Selldén's pieces resonate with questions of strength, vulnerability, and the human urge to build, challenge, and endure. Yet, the works remain open — unburdened by explanation — inviting the viewer not to interpret but to feel.

In this way, Selldén continues to navigate the space between tradition and contemporary expression — between the hand and the thought.

Mattias Selldén is born in 1986 in Uppsala, Sweden, currently lives and works in Stockholm, Sweden. Selldén received his MA in 2019 and his BA in 2013 from Konstfack, University of Arts, Crafts, Stockholm, as well as a BA from Parsons School of Design, New York in 2012.

He previously exhibited in a duo show with Thaddeus Wolfe at Friedman Benda, New York (2022), and had a solo exhibition Plastic Forrest at Kaleido Konsthantverk in Uppsala (2020). His work has appeared in group exhibitions and international design fairs, including New Narratives at Älvsjö Gård/Stockholm Furniture Fair (2023), Through The Looking Glass at Design Miami/Basel (2022), A New Realism at Friedman Benda, New York (2021), and What Would Have Been at Friedman Benda, New York (2020).

¹ Sven Lindqvist (1932–2019) was a Swedish author and essayist known for his deeply humanistic and often confrontational explorations of history, colonialism, and moral responsibility. His works, including *Exterminate All the Brutes* and *Bent*, combine intellectual rigor with personal reflection, challenging readers to reconsider their place in the world.