HOW TO OPEN BOTTLE OF WI WITH A SHO LOOK HERE! SPRING COLLECTIONS & TIMELESS FASHION CHERNOBYL: 28 YEARS LATER By Will Self HOW TO TURN 50 ON THE SKELETON COAST (WITH STYLE & BOURBON) By Richard Grant ARCHITECTURE & Design Report WHO LEADS NNOVATION? I do know how to throw MR. SAM

MR. SAM

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IAN PARKER



The Designer **Brodie Neill**

When cutting-edge technology and handcraft meet, the outcomes can be spectacular and unexpected. Australian designer Brodie Neill operates at the confluence of these two practices, producing furniture and lighting that would be impossible to conceive using just a pen and paper. "It's about getting the best results and identifying the tools you need to make it happen," says Neill, who launched the first collection of limited edition products, developed under his own Made in Ratio label, last year. I Neill applies an iterative process of physical model-making and digital manipulation to refine the complex shapes of his products, whilst ensuring they are suitable for manufacturing. "I learned to design furniture by building furniture," says Neill, whose studio in London's Clerkenwell is filled with prototypes of all different shapes and sizes. Once he's happy with the shape of the pieces, he seeks out expert manufacturers across Europe who can translate the digital files into physical form. Pointing to a spiky biomorphic trestle table frame called Supernova, Neill recalls visiting the English foundry where it was made and being astonished "to see such a high-tech thing come from such a rough and rugged process." ¶ Made in Ratio's second collection, debuting at the Milan Furniture Fair in April continues to challenge the boundaries of design, materials and technology. "We're aiming to build a complete collection, adding complementary functions whilst introducing new forms and materials," explains Neill. With a biomorphic aluminium barstool and a low stool produced in thermoformed felt made from recycled plastic drinks bottles among the new pieces, Made in Ratio is continuing to explore all the tools and tricks available to 21st century designers. — ALYN GRIFFITHS

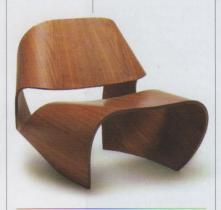
Alex Vadukul

The Plucking Woman of New York

New York has unwritten rules. Among them is the one governing personal space – those few cherished inches that despite the city's bustle constitute a small protective bubble around you. ¶ The other day, I witnessed a puzzling desecration of the rule. I was walking near Times Square when I noticed a woman pluck at a man's arm through his jacket. His friend laughed in disbelief. ¶ I thought she was a playful friend or co-worker, but further down the street she plucked another pedestrian's arm, and then another, and another. Down the length of the street people stopped in their tracks, turning around in shock as though this had been one of the biggest violations of their lives. ¶ Heading up Ninth Avenue, she plucked at a short man wearing a yarmulke. He turned

Cowrie Chair

The monocoque shells of the Cowrie chair and rocking chaise are manufactured from ash plywood by a bentwood fabricator in Belgium.



Cumulus Lampshade

Venetian glassblowers produce the complex Cumulus lampshade using a mould made by a hightech computer-controlled milling machine.



Matrix Coat Stand

A metalworking factory in England bends steel rod into an elongated lattice to make the Matrix coat stand.

