



designed by Gwendoline Porte



"In this digital age, I was inspired by the idea of fluidity and movement," says Porte. "We spend a lot of time working, while wireless technology enables us to move around more freely. I wanted to match that flexibility with a collection of timeless modules that suit the way we live and work now, whether in contemporary office spaces, hotel lobbies or home living areas. The simple yet ingenious shape of these stackable objects speak to our primitive need to let the human body express itself."

MOMENTUM. ENERGY. FLEXIBILITY.

A modern system for fluid living

Part-way between sculpture and furniture, RAILS is a modular concept designed by Gwendoline Porte, inspired by the form of railway tracks and the concept of 'journey'. Porte conceived the system when she worked on a fictive redesign of Fulham Broadway Station's old Edwardian ticket hall during her studies at Chelsea College of Arts, UAL, London.

These limited edition functional sculptures are playful, graphic and ergonomic. Each hollow structure is made from plywood and built as a boat hull, resulting in a surprisingly lightweight (less than 10kg), easy-to-handle feel. They can be stacked on top of one another to form a column, multiplied to form a hexagonal, or separated to become a stool, chair, coffee table or side table.

The pieces can lie horizontally or vertically or multiplied to create a bench, wall or a landscape or used simply as a striking standalone art piece within a room. Conceived,

designed and refined by Porte in London, the first limited edition is available in a range of colours, while finishes include metal brass, lacquer and wood. The patented modules are available in three sizes at standard seating heights: 450, 550 and 750mm. They can be bought individually or in multiples.

Every piece is handcrafted with care in Europe, by specialist metal and wood artisans who blend traditional techniques and innovative technology. Unlacquered, brass pieces are designed to reveal a gentle patina over time. This first collection is designed for indoor use, while an outdoor edit, made from Jesmonite, is in the pipeline.

Only imagination can limit the ways in which these modules can be used. Like a giant Lego or Tretis game, the pieces are fluid and adaptable, shaping their environment with a one-off look whatever their composition.



Collectable throughout a lifetime. Endlessly reusable.

These pieces are designed to last and to adapt.
They are eclectic, artistic and playful.

Innovative.

Experimenting with colour, material, proportion, form and space, RAILS stands out as a functional sculpture composed of a series of complementary elements. Accumulated, the pieces interact to become a unique ensemble. Individually they can be used as a stool, bench, side table, coffee table, desk, platform, seating area or console.

Joyful.

The multi-functionality of these modules brings a sense of joy to a scheme. They can be graphic and 'standout' or retreat quietly into a space when needed. Their endless potential configurations introduce a sense of freedom and playfulness. The pieces return aesthetic meaning to the tools and objects that we use every day.



**Launching at Clerkenwell Design Week, May 2019, London.
Visit us in Platform, House of Detention, from 21-23 May.**

Further information and price list available.
E: contact@gwendolineporte.design

Lead time: 8-10 weeks





About Gwendoline Porte

Gwendoline Porte is a French interior designer, born in 1974, who lives and works in London.

She spent her childhood under the Caribbean sun and the shade of palm trees, growing up barefoot, in contact with warm sand and the colonial houses of Guadeloupe. As an adult, she moved to Paris to study and work as a PR in fashion, events, arts and digital marketing. She then moved to London, whose cosmopolitan nature prompted her to embrace the idea that "anything is possible".

Porte recently graduated in Interior Design at Chelsea College of Arts, UAL, receiving the Dean's Award for her work. RAILS, designed as a functional sculpture, was inspired by a cross section of railway tracks and aims to capture the essence of life's journey. It was exhibited at Decorex London, Paris Design Week and the

Decorative Arts Museum in Berlin.

"I love travel and history," says Porte. "I believe we are constantly reinventing things based on what we know and what we see. I am influenced by so many creative minds, from Le Corbusier and Pierre Paulin to Basquiat and Warhol."

Undoubtedly, Porte's inspiration stems from her travels and her exotic roots. Her designs tell a story using clean lines and natural, often raw materials that age beautifully. She likes to mix different elements to add contrast and create a balance of styles, between male and female, traditional and contemporary, rustic and luxurious.

Her first project was her own family house and design studio, before completing a number of offices and residential projects in London and France.



contact@gwendolineporte.design

m. +44 78 9699 6119

www.gwendolineporte.design