

# Looking AROUND

## YOUNG DESIGNERS



Genteel, practical and conceptual, *Marina Bautier* is both a *designer* and an *entrepreneur*. And one day each month, *chef de cuisine*!

# THE AESTHETICS OF SIMPLICITY

With the look of a Pre-Raphaelite model and the character of a peasant, an artisan and an entrepreneur. Intelligence and intuition that delve into the history of Belgium and the Netherlands, reinterpreting it with the gaze of an erudite contemporary creator who likes essential things and detests ostentation.

The subject is furniture, wood. Simple, well-made things. Chairs, beds, benches, tables, bookcases, in oak or ash, destined to last and to age with dignity, because they are made with care, with sober forms that remind us of Scandinavian design, at times, or De Padova in the 1980s, with its focus on the pure furnishings of the Shakers. Born in Brussels in 1980, as a child she loved wood, and this interest led her, at the age of 18, to move to



1. FRAMES MIRROR WITH ÉTAGÈRE IN WALNUT, PRODUCED BY **LIGNE ROSET**, 2007 2. MARINA BAUTIER PREPARING THE LUNCH SHE SERVES ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH IN HER STUDIO IN BRUSSELS



High Wycombe, between London and Oxford, to take a degree in Furniture Design at Bucks New University. She then returned to her native city and opened a studio in 2003. Her career blossomed at the Salone Satellite, where in 2006 she was noticed by Ligne Roset, which acquired the design of her Frames mirror, and in 2007 by the Japanese company Idée, which asked her to reinterpret the Paysan collection. The latter was the ideal job for Marina: to modernize and revitalize

3. STEEL FRAME MIRROR, WITH BED, STORAGE UNIT AND CABINET, ALL IN OAK, PRODUCED BY **BAUTIER**, 2014.  
4. OAK TABLE WITH STORAGE UNITS IN PAINTED STEEL, PART OF THE LAP SHELVING COLLECTION DESIGNED FOR **CASE FURNITURE**, UK, 2009.

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a classic, essential line, used in cities but inspired by the rural culture of Japan. The collaboration with Idée has continued, and in November, in Tokyo, the third collection she designed for the brand founded by Teruo Kurosaki, acquired by Muji in 2007, was presented. Her way of working based on a simplicity that would be hard to match has brought her contracts with other international companies,

1. DIMANCHE SERIES, THE THIRD COLLECTION OF FURNITURE DESIGNED FOR THE JAPANESE BRAND **IDÉE**, 2015.
2. THREE SEATER SOFA, DETAIL, BASE IN OAK, FILLED WITH POLYURETHANE AND DOWN, PRODUCED BY **BAUTIER**, 2015.



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3. UNIT SYSTEM WITH COAT RACK, BOOKCASE AND DESK IN SOLID OAK OR ASH, PRODUCED BY **STATTMANN NEUE MOEBEL**, 2012.

4. OAK BENCH WITH PADDING, PRODUCED BY **BAUTIER**, 2014.
5. CRUISER OAK CHAIR WITH CUSHIONS, PRODUCED BY **SWEDESE**, 2010.



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including Swedese, the British firm Case, and the German Neue Moebel. Since 2013, after have created products for others for 10 years, she launched her own brand, Bautier, with which to produce and sell products, exclusive online or at the showroom in Brussels. Here every piece of furniture, every

detail, speak of her credo: pure, natural, finely made, not too expensive. The same spirit with which on the last Friday of every month she dons an apron and prepares lunch for 20 lovers of informal things, of the aesthetic of simplicity and timeless flavors. ■  
*Virginio Briatore*