



Jane Hall

W
O
M
A
N
M
A
D
E
G
R
E
A
T
W
O
M
E
N
D
E
S
I
G
N
E
R
S

PHAIDON



The sculptural, bulbous Braided Chair was inspired by the early childhood hairstyles of Emirati conceptual artist and designer Latifa Saeed. Producing large-scale linen tubes at a local upholstery manufacturer who helped develop the braiding technique used in the chair's production, Saeed designed her braided form to be reminiscent of the typical braids seen in children's hair throughout Saeed's upbringing. Through careful selection of native raw materials and traditional craft techniques, Saeed reflects the distinctive imprint of her milieu through work that explores the capacity of objects to communicate cultural narratives. The Braided Chair was debuted at Design

Days in Dubai in 20TK. Saeed's graduation from Dubai's Zayed University coincided with an exciting moment in the UAE for contemporary design as significant urban and cultural transformations like the establishment of the Louvre Abu Dhabi and numerous large-scale cultural events in the city of Sharjah—including the Sharjah Biennial—paved the way for opportunity within a galvanized design community ripe for collaboration. One of Saeed's most striking projects is her collaboration with Syrian artist and designer Tallin Hazbar, the Earth Hives, an installation of luminescent clay globes exploring the legacy of terracotta in the UAE—one of the region's first commodities.

20TK

Braided Chair

B. 19TK, TKTKTK, UAE.

Latifa Saeed