

ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN, INTERIORS + PROPERTY

identity[®]

Downtown Design / Ammar Basheir / Emirati crafts / Craftsmanship in the Middle East
Furniture design / david/nicolas / C'est ici / Afrominima

ISSUE 202 / OCTOBER 2020



The Craftsmanship Issue

DHS 25.00 OR 2.70 BD 2.60
SR 25.00 KD 2.10



A MOTIVATE PUBLICATION

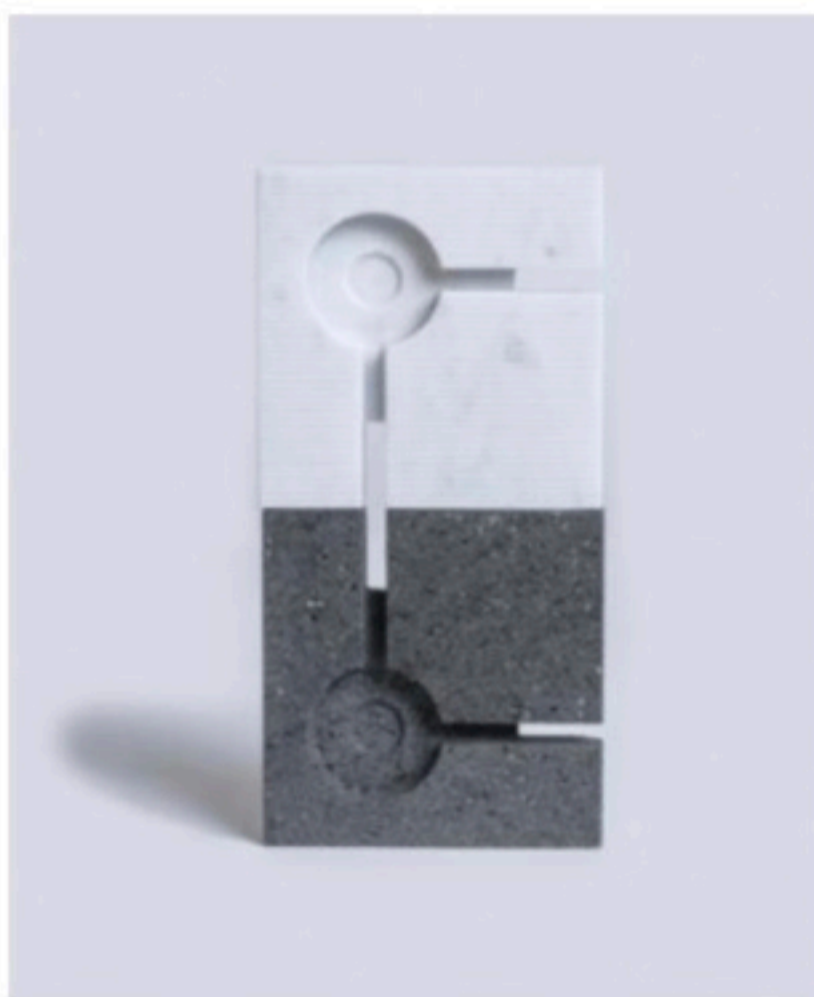
CONTEMPORARY



CRAFTSMANSHIP

Designers across the Middle East have been revisiting traditional craft techniques to create contemporary collections, objects and furniture pieces. While some of these collections are highly innovative, they also engage local craftspeople and artisans from across the region and abroad. *identity* curates a selection of objects that represent the Middle East's intangible heritage as well as global artisanal traditions.

Words by Aidan Imanova



Tarek Elkassouf
Flame, Contained
Produced in Lebanon
Carrara marble, basal, copper leafing
 2020

Flame, Contained offers a series of ashtrays, candle holders, a censor burner and a ritual tray – all of which embody the idea of life as fire, offering objects that contain the flame while giving it new life and vitality. Tarek Elkassouf invites us to question our relationship with the powerful force of nature that burns both externally and internally. The collection is also an echo of the fires that raged across the Australian landscape earlier this year, where the designer was based. In Flame, Contained, fire meets ice in a paradox of materials that are designed to fuse and blend from one collectible work to the next, where lava stone, born from volcanic heat and pressure, is soothed by the cooling touch of Carrara marble.