

## **The High is moving into contemporary design in a big way**

By [Cathy Fox](#) | Friday, January 18, 2008, 02:33 PM

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Decorative arts curator Ron Labaco announces his mission to bulk up the collection from the '60s forward in the recent commission of two designers associated with the cutting-edge Droog Collective in Amsterdam. Jurgen Bey and Tejo Remy will each create versions of one of their best-known furniture designs using local materials.

Bey will use a tree recently removed from the Atlanta Botanical Garden as the log-seat in his "Tree Trunk Bench." Remy will fashion his "Chest of Drawers," an assemblage of mismatched drawers bundled together with a mover's strap, out of drawers contributed by Georgia residents.

Labaco says he has been quietly acquiring key pieces since he joined the staff a year ago. They will debut in an exhibition opening April 19 in the wedge gallery of the skyway. The location, amid the contemporary art, is a good sign: the dialogue between so-called decorative and so-called high arts would be a fruitful one.

For more information about submitting a drawer for use in Remy's piece (he will select 20 from the submissions), go online to [www.high.org/drawerproject](http://www.high.org/drawerproject).