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BANKSTON• X YSG

During 3daysofdesign in Copenhagen, the Australian brand Bankston unveiled a collaboration that immediately captured attention: The Streaks Collection, developed with Yasmine Ghoniem of YSG Studio. The collection forms a carefully considered ensemble in which form, material, and tactility interact seamlessly. The series of wooden and bronze hardware is instantly recognisable from the first touch, thanks to its clear expressive language. Bankston has long been known for its collaborations with architects and designers, always focusing on hardware that does more than simply open spaces. With YSG Studio, the brand found a partner that enjoys experimenting with geometry, colour contrasts, and unexpected technical choices. 'The Streaks is what happens when you marry perception-challenging design with the unadulterated



beauty of timber. Yasmine pushed us to step outside our comfort zone playing with bold contrasts, unexpected material pairings, and new production methods', says Steve Bradley, co-CEO of Bankston. 'Each piece in The Streaks collection is like a little personality in itself: bold, cheeky, and full of energy. It is a reminder that great design is not just about form and function, but about having fun along the way'.

This temperament stems from YSG's distinct formal language, where interior architecture often functions as a sequence of atmospheric scenes. Ghoniem views hardware not as an addition, but as an integral part of the environment where hands, materials, and rhythms constantly interact.

GOLDEN GRAINS

A striking feature of the collection is the way different wood species, all FSC-certified and shown in their natural colours, are layered together. From lighter combinations such as American White Ash with Australian Blackbutt, to richer duos like American Walnut with Australian Red Cedar — the colour pairings add an extra dimension to each design.

The principle behind the collection is embedded in its name. A 'streak' can signify a literal trail of colour, but also a character trait. The hardware thus becomes both a visual marker and a subtle gesture. In addition to wood, Bankston introduces variants in bronze, handcrafted in Australia. The material contrasts with the warmth of the wood and accentuates the sculptural qualities for which YSG is known.

THE HAND AS A STARTING POINT

With craftsmanship at the core, ergonomics form a quiet undercurrent throughout the collection. Form is never purely visual, but also designed for the pure physical interaction. This is partly technical, partly sensory. From this combination emerges an unexpected lightness. Although the handmade process is visible in the layering of the wood, the collection avoids the monumental, focusing instead on nuance and delight in everyday gestures.

With this series, Bankston continues its approach seen in previous collaborations such as the Super Collection with <u>Sans-Arc</u>, Casts with <u>Edition Office</u>, and Hemispheres with Civilian Projects. The approach is consistent: a studio is given full creative freedom within a clearly defined artisanal framework, allowing each project to develop its own character. The collaboration with YSG Studio fits within this strategy thanks to Ghoniem's distinctive visual language. Her practice has been internationally and locally acclaimed in recent years, with mentions in <u>Architectural Digest</u>'s AD100 lists, and awards such as Vogue Living's Interior Designer of the Year and Interior Designer of the Year at the Interior Design Excellence

Awards. That YSG works not only on interiors but also on architecture and product lines made this collaboration a logical next step.

When hardware is designed with the same attention as furniture or spatial structures, it shifts perception. A door handle is no longer merely functional, but becomes the first tactile encoun-

ter with a space. In The Streaks Collection, this moment is consciously orchestrated: the layered strips catch the eye, while the curves and proportions invite touch. Ghoniem particularly admires the versatility of the pieces: 'They enhance the connection between different types of spaces and are also suitable for prominent access points in hospitality, office, and retail environments'. This makes the collection adaptable to various contexts, where details are subtle yet leave a signature. The visual variety within the series allows for both subtle integration and bold contrast.

The collection was unveiled to an international audience during 3daysof-design in Copenhagen, a design fair renowned for its focus on material experimentation and innovative design. The context demonstrated that the collection functions not just as hardware, but as part of a broader design dialogue.

A COLLECTION WITH CHARACTER

The Streaks Collection blurs the boundaries between hardware and object design. It introduces small sculptures that open doors, close cabinets, and connect spaces. The project brings together Bankston's technical expertise with YSG's distinctive visual and spatial sensibility, giving hardware an unexpected role. It becomes a personal, layered detail that speaks as much about a space as about the people moving through it. The collection encourages reflection on that first, often overlooked point of contact, where first impressions are formed — a small moment with a significant impact.

(Text: Carolien Depamelaere)



WHEN HARDWARE IS DESIGNED WITH THE SAME ATTENTION AS FURNITURE OR SPATIAL STRUCTURES, IT SHIFTS PERCEPTION