

## **Parker B. Smith - PBS Design**

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### **Artist Statement**

I take a philosophy first approach to design. The studio "PBS" is built around the belief that perspective builds the structure of our reality. This ensures that objects and spaces reflect those principals and values.

Structures I create act as shelters from a world of constant stimulation. Their simplicity gives us moments to breathe and think clearly, enriching our own thoughts, a gentle reminder to slow down. They create space for ideas, giving a stage to what we value most. I believe meanings are not fixed at the moment of production; they accumulate slowly, shaped by lived experience and imbued through memoires of use.

The visual languae of the studio is inspired by the landscape of the American midwest, and the clean forms of nordic minimalism. Creating a new aesthetic of raw and honest forms that reflect the endless expanse of the plains.

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### **Limmen Light**

This Light is a vessel for reflection.

Limen is a sensory threshold, the moment when something subtle becomes perceptible. In architecture, it describes a physical or conceptual boundary between distinct spaces. This transitional zone heightens awareness as one moves from one condition to another.

Light highlights this transition. Its presence is perceived and reflected by the opposing faces, each side playing a role in defining the structure. Through this exchange, negative space becomes the focus. Representing a transition between perspective and understanding. Reflection emerges as both a physical and internal process: an awareness of one's own perspective, views, and lived experience, framed by what is withheld rather than what is shown.

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### **Stream Stool**

A seat is an invitation to rest. It acts as a shelter returning one's awareness.

Shaped to facilitate rest and contemplation, this stool's structure is intentionally open and disconnected, allowing thoughts to flow freely. Side panels stand monolithic and firm, creating a protective boundary from the noise of daily life. The seat, separated from its supports, lifts the body into the air, further emphasizing shelter from grounding realities and encourages renewal through mindful awareness of one's thoughts.

These are handcrafted from sustainably and locally sourced ash wood, reclaimed from fallen trees throughout Hennepin County. The wood carries memories of place and time, reminding us that renewal is right under our seat.

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### **Samsara Smoker**

Through repeated burning, wood sheds its surface and reveals the grain beneath. A record shaped by long winters, open summers, and the quiet passing of seasons. The piece carries imperfections, individuality, a memory of place and time. Each piece is handcrafted from sustainably and locally sourced ash wood, reclaimed from fallen trees throughout Hennepin County.

When using this object, consider what has come before and how those layers continue to shape who you are. It invites awareness of the cycles that define a life, subtle or profound, ongoing and unfinished.

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