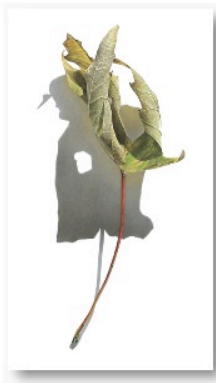


*Some see Nature all ridicule and deformity, and some scarce see Nature at all. But to the eyes of the man of imagination, Nature is Imagination itself.*  
- William Blake

**GALLERY HOURS**  
Wednesday–Saturday 12–5,  
and by appointment



## David Morrison & Donald Mee: nature transformed

**March 2-April 16, 2011**



Featuring two Indiana artists with strong links to the Herron School of Art & Design, this show will feature the drawings of David Morrison and the sculptural furniture of Donald Mee. The exhibition will run from March 2 – April 16, 2011.

The Associate Professor of Printmaking at Herron School of Art & Design in Indianapolis, David Morrison has shown in over 180 international and national exhibitions and has received numerous awards and fellowships. His work is included in many prestigious public collections including The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington DC; The Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC; The Portland Art Museum, Oregon, and the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City to name a few.

David Morrison uses individual leaves and curls of bark as iconic forms against a white ground. These colored pencil drawings possess an incredible sense of detail. Each vein in the leaf, each subtle variation in color or texture is rendered with such accuracy and attention to detail that they almost seem to be the actual objects they represent. Each is rendered on a solid white ground and drawn against a trompe l'oeil shadow, adding further to its surreal power of illusion. Says Morrison: *My drawings capture the degeneration cycle of plant materials and how they echo the living conditions of man and nature.*

*The details are not the details. They make the design.*  
- Charles Eames

Born in 1976, Mee spent his teen years driving from Logansport, Indiana to Indianapolis to attend Herron School of Art & Design every Saturday. He attended Herron for college, where he received his BFA in sculpture in 2000, with a minor in furniture design.

Exhibiting his work locally and pursuing mostly sculpture, Mee has had a recent evolution in his work. He has fused his exceptional metal work with gorgeous hardwoods to produce one-of-a-kind studio furniture pieces that are both functional and sculptural. These pieces vary from works that are elegant and delicate using forged metal and unusual hardwoods to works that are more rustic, but no less captivating, and combine found steel I-beams with reclaimed wood. In addition, he continues to pursue unique sculpture from forged and welded steel.

Says Mee: *When I look at a slab of wood for one of my pieces, I focus on the imperfections as something to be celebrated; because people as well as objects are not perfect. The other thing I consider is the metal with which I work. I love to take industrial materials such as I-beams and plates of steel, which on their own imply a utilitarian coldness, and then reshape that material into a vaguely recognizable but transformed object. By combining these materials with such different connotations, I am pointing to the fact that we are all made up of imperfections, perceptions, and distinct materials. However, arranged properly and appreciated, it all becomes a beautiful piece of art.*

*Who ever said that pleasure wasn't functional?*  
- Charles Eames