

BERSERKER OAK / YGGDRASIL / CHRONICLE

FIRÅQ

Separation

An oak column, 206 cm tall, 52 wide. The first piece where I hid absolutely nothing – no filler, no hunting for boards without flaws.

01

MANIFESTO · FIRÃQ

NOTHING
HIDDEN.

The commission was two shelving units. A pair. Him and her. Amytis came first – the hanging gardens, seven terraces, a woman who missed her mountains. The second was meant to be a brother, a lover, the other half. It stopped being a character and became an emotion. Firãq. An Arabic word, used in Persian: separation. The ache that comes from parting with someone you love – the same ache that built the gardens.

I didn't pick the wood. I hid nothing – no filler, no hunting for boards without flaws. The face cracks stayed on the surface. I reinforced what had to be reinforced and left the rest the way it came.



The thought of passing arrived on its own. It is ugly and beautiful at once. Wood cracks the way a person sometimes cracks — it carries scars on the body and on the soul. The client uses it as a liquor cabinet. Separation you can take the edge off.



FIRÃO – FULL FRONT OF THE UNIT, SEVEN LEVELS, IRREGULAR RHYTHM OF UPRIGHTS



FIRÃO – THE UNIT AGAINST THE WALL, SIDE VIEW



FIRÃO – TOP-DOWN VIEW THROUGH THE BAYS, RHYTHM OF THE UPRIGHTS

02

SPECIFICATION · FULL

EVERY DIMENSION
RECORDED.

◆ DIMENSIONS <table><tr><td>HEIGHT</td><td>206 cm</td></tr><tr><td>WIDTH</td><td>52 cm</td></tr><tr><td>DEPTH</td><td>28 cm</td></tr><tr><td>BOARD THICKNESS</td><td>22 mm · uprights 15 mm</td></tr><tr><td>LEGS</td><td>None – the sides are the legs</td></tr></table>	HEIGHT	206 cm	WIDTH	52 cm	DEPTH	28 cm	BOARD THICKNESS	22 mm · uprights 15 mm	LEGS	None – the sides are the legs	◆ STRUCTURE <table><tr><td>LEVELS</td><td>7 (6 shelves + capping board)</td></tr><tr><td>VERTICAL UPRIGHTS</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>BAYS</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>JOINTS</td><td>Blind 8 mm walnut dowels</td></tr><tr><td>WIDTH GLUE-UPS</td><td>None – every part from a single board</td></tr></table>	LEVELS	7 (6 shelves + capping board)	VERTICAL UPRIGHTS	5	BAYS	6	JOINTS	Blind 8 mm walnut dowels	WIDTH GLUE-UPS	None – every part from a single board
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03

CONSTRUCTION

TWO
CENTIMETRES.

Shelving units don't forgive. Half a degree off at the floor becomes almost 2 cm at 2 metres. There is no point at which you make that up – either it is plumb from the first cut or it never is.

There are no legs. 2 long boards, 206 × 28 cm, 22 mm, each from a single piece – those are the legs. Between them 7 horizontal boards: 6 shelves and one capping the top, plus 5 vertical uprights. 7 levels – the same count as the terraces in Amytis; you will put something on that last one too. The rhythm of the uprights came from the client, I reshuffled the order, the idea survived. All of it checked with a try square and it still is not perfectly true: it came out crooked, 1.5 cm at the top. At the client's house that lean turned out to let it sit flush against the wall without cutting into the skirting board. I did not plan it, and I am not going to pretend I did.

The uprights are 15 mm. I have nothing that resaws, so they came down from 30 on the thicknesser – half of that wood left the workshop as shavings. That is what it looks like when the workshop is 25 square metres and there is no bandsaw in it.

◆ CONSTRUCTION



FIRÃO – BAYS AND UPRIGHTS IN RAKING LIGHT



FIRÃO – SHELF MEETING AN UPRIGHT, DOWEL IN THE JOINT

04

DETAILS

WALNUT
AND SCARS.

Every accent is walnut. Polish, ordinary. The 8 mm dowels along the long sides are visible because they are meant to be visible – I don't mask the joinery, I show it.

Butterflies went where the cracks ran deep enough to keep running. Corners routed, all of them.

On the underside of the lowest shelf I stamped memento mori. Old, plain, Latin. It is not in the description and not in any photograph. The client doesn't know. He may find it in ten years, repainting the walls. He may never. The steel plate on the inside of the left leg you can see – it is the last photograph in this chronicle.

01 8 MM WALNUT DOWELS – CONTRAST INSTEAD OF CONCEALMENT

02 BUTTERFLY IN THE CRACK – REINFORCEMENT, NOT CAMOUFLAGE

03 FACE CRACKS LEFT OPEN

04 NO LEGS – THE SIDES ARE THE LEGS

05 SEVEN LEVELS – THE SAME COUNT AS THE TERRACES IN AMYTIS

06 A CENTIMETRE AND A HALF OUT OF PLUMB – A DEFECT THAT HAPPENED TO FIT

07 EVERY PART FROM A SINGLE BOARD, NO WIDTH GLUE-UPS

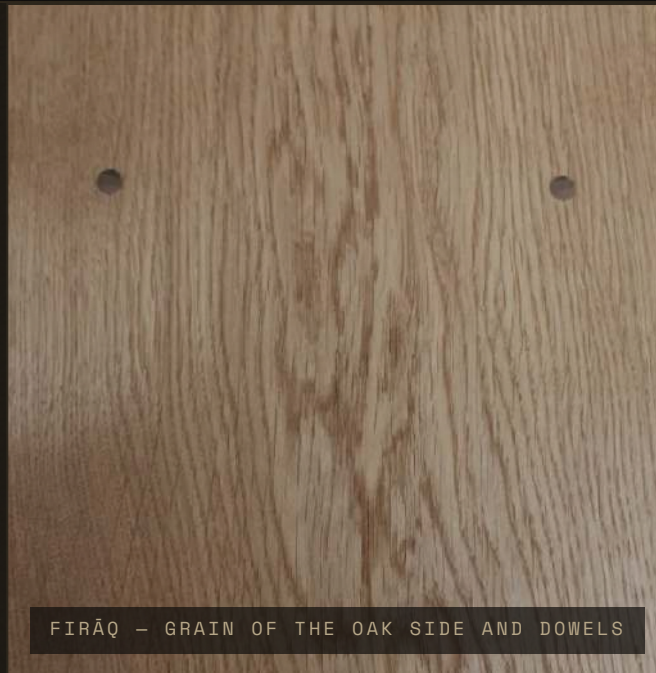
08 15 MM UPRIGHTS – PLANED FROM 30 MM, HALF OF IT BECAME SHAVINGS

09 MEMENTO MORI STAMPED – A FIRST FOR BERSERKER OAK

10 STEEL PLATE – THE FIRST ONE ON MY FURNITURE



FIRÃO — ROUNDED SHELF EDGE



FIRÃO — GRAIN OF THE OAK SIDE AND DOWELS



FIRÃO — FACE CRACK LEFT OPEN



FIRÃO — WALNUT DOWEL ON THE OAK SIDE



FIRÃO — CARCASS CORNER, ROUTED EDGE



FIRÃO — KNOT, CRACK AND DOWELS ON THE SIDE

WORKSHOP QUOTE

**WOOD CRACKS THE WAY A PERSON
SOMETIMES CRACKS.
IT CARRIES *scars* ON THE BODY AND ON THE
SOUL.**

— FROM THE WORKSHOP NOTES

05

NUMBERS

NUMBERS FROM THE NOTEBOOK.

The numbers this piece left behind in the notebook.

206

CM TALL, WITHOUT LEGS

1,5

CM OUT OF PLUMB – AND IT
FITS BETTER FOR IT

7

LEVELS – AS MANY AS THE
TERRACES IN AMYTIS

50%

OF THE UPRIGHT STOCK
BECAME SHAVINGS



FIRÃO – WALNUT BUTTERFLY INLAID ACROSS A CRACK



FIRÃO – BERSERKER OAK STEEL PLATE ON THE INSIDE OF THE LEFT LEG

FOR A CHANGE, *real.*

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