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**PRESS RELEASE
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Ngala Trading Adds Furniture Maker Umdabu to its Selection of Stocked Luxury African Goods.

Umdabu expands on the brand's growing furniture offering and is marked by its modern aesthetic achieved through the tradition of wood working.

May 31, 2023; New York, NY – Ngala Trading introduces a new brand partner, Umdabu, to its large selection of sustainably- and ethically-sourced luxury African goods. All Umdabu furnishings are 100% hand-made exclusively in Africa, incorporating natural wooden elements into contemporary designs.

The Umdabu design process starts from a root or a natural wooden slab and ultimately becomes functional art in the home, emphasizing the designs as creations that are the antithesis of mass production. Umdabu adds a sense of casual modernism to Ngala Trading and draws on the unique and naturally beauty found locally in Johannesburg, South Africa.

“As we continue to expand our furniture range, we strive to offer a variety of styles commonly seen in contemporary African interior design,” says Lawson Ricketts, creative director and co-founder of Ngala Trading. “Working with wood as a medium is very common across the continent and something that was lacking in our line. Visiting the Umdabu factory and seeing the talent of wood carving, hand weaving and wood turning sold me – the skill is truly remarkable.”

The introductory collection includes:

Che Chair - a minimalistic wooden dining chair inspired by early Cape Dutch furniture. It is simple, lightweight and strong, made from solid American Oak with a woven corded seat, offered in two colorways: natural and black.

Imboko Chair – an occasional chair that blends a casual and modern safari aesthetic. An intersection of style and comfort, the chair's oversized leather cushions rest on a solid American Oak timber frame with an airy accent of woven cording on each side.

Nthatu Side Table – derived from the Zulu vocabulary meaning “three”, the Nthatu side table is a modern, contemporary design featuring a tripod of solid wooden legs beneath a stunning South African-sourced granite top.

The introductory Umdabu collection starts at \$1075 retail and is available online at www.NgalaTrading.com as well as to the trade. Limited customization options such as leather and cord colors are available for made-to-order purchases. To view in person, the collection is showcased at trade shows including High Point Market and Atlanta Market, and the collection is on display in the Ngala



Trading flagship showroom at the New York Design Center. For more information, please visit NgalaTrading.com.

About Ngala Trading: Ngala Trading is a leading resource to North America's premier boutique home furnishing stores and interior design firms for their lighting, furniture, décor, and accessories requirements. Founded in 2016 by Nick Geimer and Lawson Ricketts, Ngala Trading is now the largest importer and distributor of sustainably- and ethically-sourced handmade, luxury lighting, furniture and home decor curated from across the African continent. Design headquarters for Ngala Trading is based in New York, New York. To learn more, visit www.ngalatrading.com

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