

ΝO

## BENCHMARK

After an open public voting process, the winner of the Most Beautiful Object in South Africa for 2019 was announced at the Design Indaba Festival: Houtlander's Interdependence II bench.

VERY year, Design Indaba calls on industry leaders and influencers to nominate what they

think is the most beautiful object in the country, before opening up the vote to the public to decide which object or concept should win.

Designed by Phillip Hollander and Stephen Wilson of Houtlander, the Interdependence II bench received the annual accolade, with 20% of the total number of votes.

The bright-blue bench, punctuated by a playful sculptural twist, was nominated by entrepreneur Nandi Dlepu, who applauded the quality of the manufacturing and the abstract yet familiar nature of the design.

Among this year's nominees

were Ebert Otto's copper-and-glass kettle, nominated by VISI editor-inchief Sumien Brink; African bridal dress by Mzukisi Mbane, nominated by TV presenter Bonnie Mbuli; and the Nenzima desk by Mpho Vackier, nominated by interior designer Donald Nxumalo. designindaba.com houtlander.co.za