



● Loll 2000, by Sebastian di Mauro, is made of steel scourers and aluminium.

Sculptures as furniture

AN Australian-first exhibition featuring contemporary furniture with a sculpted component will take centre stage at the Brisbane City Gallery from Friday.

The exhibition, titled *Against the Grain — Australian Sculptural Furniture*, will feature new works by 28 significant Australian artists, and will run until November 12.

Brisbane City Council Community Policy Committee chairman Councillor David Hinchliffe said the works included cabinets, chairs and screens that explored a wide range of themes such as landscape, sex, mythology and phenomena such as magnetic fields.

"Much of the furniture on show will be inventive, original and witty, and is sure to be of interest to a wide cross-section of the community, from lovers of the arts to those who revel in the quirky and unusual," Cr Hinchliffe said.

"In Europe, recent exhibitions of this kind of sculptural furniture have been described as the 'new design'.

"Although the works in this show have been carefully designed, the difference is that the relationship between design and manufacture is not a critical factor."

Featured works include Martin Corbin's piece which reconstructs old chairs into sculptural forms, Kevin Perkins' screens based on whale flakes, Tom Riseley's poetic driftwood dining suite complete with eight, 4m high chairs and Wayne Hudson's "bum rests" which are described as typically Australian.

The exhibition also includes emerging artists such as Guy Parmenter who uses magnetic repulsion to float the top of a sideboard almost magically on air.

The Brisbane City Gallery is on the ground floor of City Hall, just inside the main entrance from King George Square.

It is open seven days a week from 10am to 5pm, and admission is free.