



Collaborating with TABISSO on the Micah Stool

By Designer Michael Sean Stolworthy

“The Micah stool was a pure concept initially as it had never been realized, it was just one among dozens of original designs that I like creating at my studio MS.MD in Las Vegas.

The project started by love at first sight among the designers at Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, considering the Micah stool as being THE absolute design piece required for their unique venue, the futurist Bionic Bar bound to be the first true robotic bar in the world, assembling cocktails with laser precision with robotic arms just like in a car assembly line. The Bionic Bar was to be one of the highlight venues of the Oasis Harmony of the Seas, the largest cruise ship ever built in history, set to come out of the French St. Nazaire shipyard STX in May 2016.

Indeed the venue begged for a mecha / droid like set of metal stools as a finishing touch to surround the robotic bartending area. The Micah stool is a complex form, and the production of the required pieces at a custom height in record time was a great challenge. To make things happen, RCCL and the French shipyard STX put me in contact with French design editor TABISSO who's main focus is the production of high end furniture for the professional/Contract market. Due to time constraints and sheer geometrical complexity, we quickly decided to cast Micah in aluminum making use of a leading-edge technology, i.e. 3d printing of sand molds to cast the stools in one solid piece. There are but a few companies today using this technology, usually for the automotive and the aerospace industries in France and Germany. The Micah stool project is among the first to use this technology for design furniture, allowing the resulting pieces to be as beautiful and uncompromising as it was originally conceived. The sculptural, skeleton-like design of the stools and aluminum material is a perfect match with the futuristic Bionic Bar.”