

Gary Galego CarbonWood Bike

33 lb (14.96 kg)
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garygalego.com

Sydney-based furniture designer Gary Galego introduced a wooden bike at the 2009 annual Milan furniture fair that echoes Copenhagen bicycle designer Jens Martin Skibsted's view that a bike is a kinetic, comfortable piece of furniture. "I put together a show called Workshop to show what's possible," Galego says.

Galego likes wood's aesthetic appeal and its ability to absorb shocks. His laminated birchwood and carbon-fiber sandwich bike frame is as strong as steel and, despite its large sectional volume, the bike and components – Galego's maple, carbon-fiber, and leather handlebar, cranks, and steel forks from Paul's Components in San Diego, and custom wheels – together weigh only about 22 lb (9.97 kg). Carbon

fibers in the front triangle add shear strength and rigidity and, although this makes the frame non-biodegradable, it will last a long time and get passed down. "I hope to make furniture that exemplifies those properties," Galego says. So far, his production time of three to four weeks for one bike keeps the price high.

