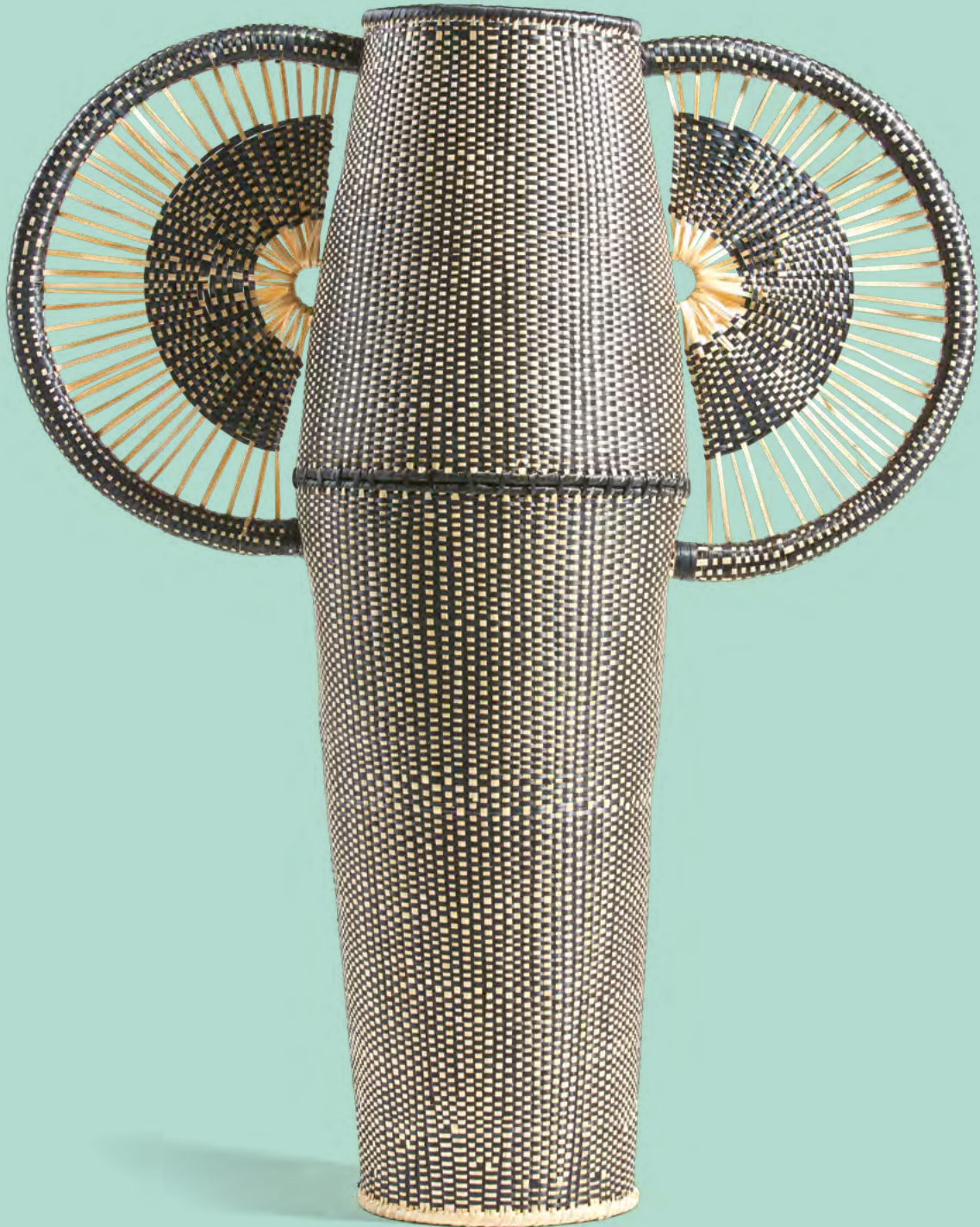


GUAPI



ames
vibrant living

GUAPI



Design and inspiration

The Guapi vases, designed by Mae Engelgeer, enrich every space with their eccentric, sculptural shape, and structured, gently shimmering surface. Initially launched in natural beige, the two new editions come in a hazy denim blue and dusty pink.

Mae Engelgeer developed the design of these vases after learning about the 'cuatro tetas', the traditional baskets of the Eperaara Siapidaara people in the Southwest of Colombia. Their women make these baskets with the leaves of the Chocolatillo palm, applying different braiding techniques in one piece so that various patterns decorate one piece.

Inspired by the concept of combining multiple braiding styles in one object, she developed the striking shape of the two Guapi vases. Mae chose this name for this collection as an ode to the region of Guapi, located on Colombia's pacific coast, as this is where the baskets traditionally have been made. 'I wanted to create unusual shapes with a playful look so they come alive – like the big circles on the sides, which almost look like huge ears,' she says about the collection.

To bring her design from the drawing board into reality, Mae worked closely with the Colombian artisans in the ateliers in Guapi, as the old techniques needed to be rethought to create the clean lines of the vase. With its natural texture and alluring design, the Guapi vase will liven up any space.

About the designer

Dutch designer Mae Engelgeer has always been drawn to textiles - from her school days through her studies at the Amsterdam Fashion Institute to her Masters in Applied Art at the Sandberg Instituut. Since opening her studio in 2013, she has been driven by her interest in traditional craft techniques. Using yarns, colours, patterns, and fabrics, she pushes the boundaries of textile production to adapt old techniques for the modern-day. Mae Engelgeer's signature style combines subtle colour palettes, patterns, and linear elements.

Product type

Vases

Materials

Natural Fiber Straw Tetera,
Chocolatillo

Colours

natural white
natural white/black
blue denim
faided pink

Country of origin

Colombia

Place of use

Commercial and
Residential

Environment

Indoor

Customise product

Please contact
shop@amesliving.de
for bespoke versions

GUAPI





Dimensions (mm)

1
Height: 60
Width: 80
Depth: 80

2
Height: 80
Width: 80
Depth: 80

3
Height: 90
Width: 80
Depth: 80

Packaging dimensions (H x W x D) (mm)

1,2,3
650 x 850 x 850

Item weight (kg)

1
10

2
10

3
12

Craft and manufacturing

Making beautiful objects from the Tetera and Chocolatillo palm fibres is a centuries-old skill that the women of the indigenous Eperaara Siapidaara people have mastered. Their communities live in Colombia's lush Guapi region, which stretches along the Pacific coast of Colombia. An elaborate ten-day process transforms the palm leaves into fibres: the young palm – only two leaves can have grown – is extracted from the ground, and roots, stem, and leaves are separated. Craftspeople then peel the stem with a knife and let the strips dry in the shade. In the next step, they roll bottles over the stems to flatten them and to extract the pulp. Then, the stalk is cut vertically, the remaining pulp carved out, and five to ten centimetre long strings are removed.

Local flowers and roots, crushed with a stone and mixed with water, are used to dye the strings. The palm fibres are 'cooked' for one hour in this mixture, and, after being rinsed, are left to dry in the air. The water used for this dyeing process is reused for the next batch of fibres.

The weaving of the pattern takes the makers up to eight days. The artisans braid the body of the vase working with a metal structure especially created to make the Guapi vases, which takes up to four days. The two little ears are made with a different weaving technique and are attached by weaving them into the corpus of the vase.

Care instructions

Protect from damp conditions and only use indoors. Use a slightly damp cloth to clean the product.

GUAPI

1



natural white
00AGNV1-A



natural white/black
00AGNV1-B



blue denim
00AGNV1-C



faided pink
00AGNV1-D

GUAPI 2



natural white
00AGNV2-A



natural white/black
00AGNV2-B





blue denim
00AGNV2-C




faided pink
00AGNV2-D

GUAPI 3


natural white
00AGNV3-A


natural white/black
00AGNV3-B


blue denim
00AGNV3-C


faided pink
00AGNV3-D