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# unobis

DESIGN / LIVING / ARCHITECTURE

## Best Designs *of* 2010

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# BEST rocker

**Signature rocker - David Haig**

Traditional craftsmanship meets contemporary styling in the Nelson designer's star piece.



THIS ISN'T A NEW design. David's Haig Signature Rocker is aptly named, since it has, over the past 20 years, become his signature piece. Usually, we might shy away from objects that have done the rounds already, but when we visited Nelson earlier this year for an Urbis feature, Haig's skeletal, sculptural rocking chairs exuded such refinement and confidence, that, in our minds, all the other new chairs we had seen somehow didn't compare.

Haig had been interesting in developing a design that drew together sweeping curves. In a pencil sketch at the breakfast table, he drew the original design, which is still largely unchanged from the design 20 years on. The first chair took three months to make, involving an entirely handcrafted process of seasoning the timber, steam-bending lengths of walnut, sycamore or ash, working the wood, and finally hand-varnishing with oil and wax to finish.

Within international woodworking circles, Haig's Signature Rocker is famous. As a contemporary design object within Nelson,