The Best From the World of Design at Design Miami 2017

BY BLOUIN ARTINFO | DECEMBER 04, 2017
As the mercury levels begin to dip, design lovers from all parts of the world head to the balmy beaches of Miami for a five-day long celebration of design and all things fine. For its thirteenth edition, Design Miami returns with a power-packed program of events featuring thirty-two galleries and an impressive selection of eleven Design Curios, the largest till date. From contemporary furniture, sculptures, and ceramics, to historic and handcrafted collectible design, the fair promises a delightful mélange of the best that the world of design has to offer.

Galerie kreo, an exhibitor at Design Miami since its beginning, presents handcrafted and industrial objects and furniture along with large-scale spatial installations by Paris-based Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec. New York’s Magen H Gallery makes a comeback with French designer and wood craftsman Pierre Chapo’s much celebrated furniture designs. In yet another noteworthy exhibition, US-based Future Perfect presents the works of Eric Roinestad who draws upon his Scandinavian heritage and folk modernism of California to handcraft remarkable ceramic objects.

American Designers, both historic and contemporary, have a pronounced presence at the fair with the greatly admired works of George Nakashima, considered one of the pioneering figures of the American Studio Craft Movement, along with works by Katie Stout, the Haas Brothers, Doug and Mike Starn, and other architects and designers. New York-based Converso makes a grand debut at the fair with its collection of modern furnishings, objects, and furniture designed by architects, notably highlighting the works of Albert Frey, the modernist architect from California. Maison Gerard from New York with its prized collection of French Art Deco, and San Francisco’s Lebreton are other debutants at the fair.

A definite not-to-be-missed at Design Miami is the range of Shaker furniture being presented for the first time. New York’s John Keith Russell Antiques has curated their Design Curio presentation in the Shaker tradition featuring a range of furniture and objects including desks, chairs, tables, stoves, baskets, and boxes. Various interpretations of modernism also find place at the fair with the works of architect Albert Frey, along with Brazilian modernist designer trio Joaquim Tenreiro, Sérgio Rodrigues, and José Zanine Caldas.
The much-applauded Design Curio enters its fourth season with eleven curations by architects and designers from different parts of the world. Patrick Parrish Gallery collaborates with MIT’s Self-Assembly Lab to give a peek into the future of manufacturing through their demonstration of a robot printing tote bags and art objects. Cherine Magrabi Tayeb’s “House of Today” builds a visual narrative through sheets of inscribed cement that explore the identity of present day Lebanon. Lindsey Adelman’s “The Edge of What We Know” and David Lindberg’s “Residual Time Energy Blowout” present an immersive experience through a fascinating play of light — Adelman questions the ability of five senses to fully grasp the truth, while Lindberg blends imagination and engineering in his unique research. India’s Bijoy Jain Studio gives a contemporary touch to local traditions, while Iran’s Ali Alizadeh studies traditional craft in light of technological advancement.

Just like every year, this December too, Miami transforms into a cultural magnet with a vibrant confluence of designers and artists thronging the city for Design Miami and Art Basel, which take place at the same time.

*Design Miami runs from December 6 to December 10, 2017.*


*Click on the slideshow for a sneak peek at the works that will be exhibited during the festival.*