

Light And Colour: Design Miami/Basel Returns



Courtesy of Cristina Grajales Gallery and Betil Dagdelen

Ottoman by Betil Dagdelen (2014) at Cristina Grajales Gallery

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FULL SCREEN

15
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The 13th edition of Design Miami/Basel returns and in a time of hyper-speed and technological stimulation, takes a moment to pause and reflect on the tenets of good design and human interaction

Forty-six galleries, 10 Curio installations in the style of Renaissance-era cabinets of curiosities, satellites, collaborations, talks and events mark the upcoming edition of **Design Miami/Basel**, running 12-17 June. A global forum for design, it celebrates culture and commerce alongside seminal fair, **Art Basel**, which will run 14-17 June.

With a mix of debut and commissioned works, as well as several one-of-a-kind pieces, common threads throughout the programming and booths include woven structures, fine jewelry, chandeliers and ceramics. Thirteen countries are represented in the main galleries, which include the likes of ammann/gallery (Cologne), Galerie Patrick Seguin (London/Paris) and Todd Merrill Studio (New York). Though many are based in central Europe, a handful of newcomers with solo and group presentations include Venice's Caterina Tognon, Paris's Galerie Metterrand and Galerie Regis Mathieu, Barcelona's **Side Gallery**, and **The Future Perfect** (Los Angeles/New York/San Francisco), showcasing contemporary glasswork, monumental sculpture, historic chandeliers, as well as Latin American historical design.



BBPR. Unique Ceiling Lamp Mod 2045. c. 1962. Gate 5. Courtesy of Arteluce

There is also a Brazilian focus. "We are excited for the return of Mercado Moderno, Rio's preeminent design gallery and second year Design Miami/**Basel** participant," notes fair CEO Jen Roberts. "They will be exhibiting a strong selection of contemporary **Brazilian design** alongside historic, mid-century design from greats such as Joaquim Tenreiro. They will also present a special project reflecting the workmanship of potters in the mountainous region of Brazil known as the Serra de Capivara National Park. Side Gallery will also exhibit a rich collection of Oscar Niemeyer's modernist furniture. Niemeyer is noted as the architect behind Brasília, the capital of Brazil, as well as for many of his incredible buildings in the mid-century. Side Gallery's focus is in part on Latin American historical design."



Installation view of Side Gallery's modernist furniture (Oscar Niemeyer) on display at Design Miami/Basel 2018

"Siegelson Gallery (New York) will show important, historic fine jewelry. One piece of note is a starfish brooch from the 1930s, by Juliette Moutard for Jeanne Boivin – each arm is articulated so that the brooch subtly reproduces the crawling motion of a living starfish when worn," says Roberts. "Additionally, **Friedman Benda** (NYC) will come with a strong and exciting solo show dedicated to new works by iconic Japanese brand, nendo, which has designed the entire booth display which will debut an 18-piece metal furniture collection inspired by watercolor paint on paper."



Urano Palma. Uranoide trone. 1978. Courtesy of Erastudio Apartment-Gallery

Small-scale, immersive installations from the Curio programme will feature highlights such as Ivan Mietton's snapshot of a 1965 Italian living room of Ettore Sottsass's furniture and ceramics made during a period where he encountered Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac and Ernest Hemingway; or the gravity-defying glassworks from Nouvel Limited's presentation of Mexican designers Emiliano Godoy and Hector Esrawe with US designer Brian Thoreen. *Priveekollektie Contemporary Art | Design* will bring Dominic Harris's Baby Shimmer, exploring the role of audience interaction with light, colour and movement through an immersive, infinite installation, touching on similar notes as TORRI's engagement with Adyton by Vincent Beaurin, who subverts protocols to plunge viewers into experimental, meditative colour combinations constituted by 16 Ocelles.



Installation view of works on display at Ammann/gallery in Design Miami/Basel 2018, Booth G 15

Additional programming includes the Design at Large sector, dedicated to large-scale historical and contemporary designs, curated by Francois Halard this year, who has worked with the personal spaces of figures such as Louise Bourgeois, Robert Rauschenberg and Cy Twombly. With details yet to be revealed, Halard shares that there will be an exploration of time and how it impacts design and the creative process. The Satellites section, presenting inventive exhibitions from museums, bookstores, brands and collectors, will be curated by Stuart Parr around a curatorial theme with an educational slant focusing on his collection of classic 1970s Italian motorcycles. And another exciting initiative is in the works. "The **Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation** in collaboration with SFA Advisory and Southern Guild are presenting an exhibition that encourages our guests to make small changes toward a sustainable environment through five large-scale, functional, and sculptural designs of endangered species by renowned South African artist Porky Hefer," reveals Roberts. "Each design is produced using environmentally sound materials that have been hand-worked by artisans in Cape Town."



Table by Unknown designer. c. 1920-30s. Courtesy of Heritage Gallery

A final special exhibition will include the fourth edition of the **Swarovski Designers** of the Future Award, of which three winners responded to a brief of whether crystal innovations can make living smarter, more interactive, sustainable, immersive and accessible. Applying pioneering crystal technologies and psycho activation techniques, Dutch Frank Kolkman, Dutch-Japanese research practice *Study O Portable* and Japanese Yosuke Ushigome's stand-out designs delivered on the demand for moments of connectivity and transformation, dynamic interplay between digital and physical, and individual and collective. ***Designmiami.com***