

Art | Basel | Miami Beach

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BASEL'S BABY SISTER

Design.05 Miami offers furniture as art BY CHRISTIAN CIPRIANI

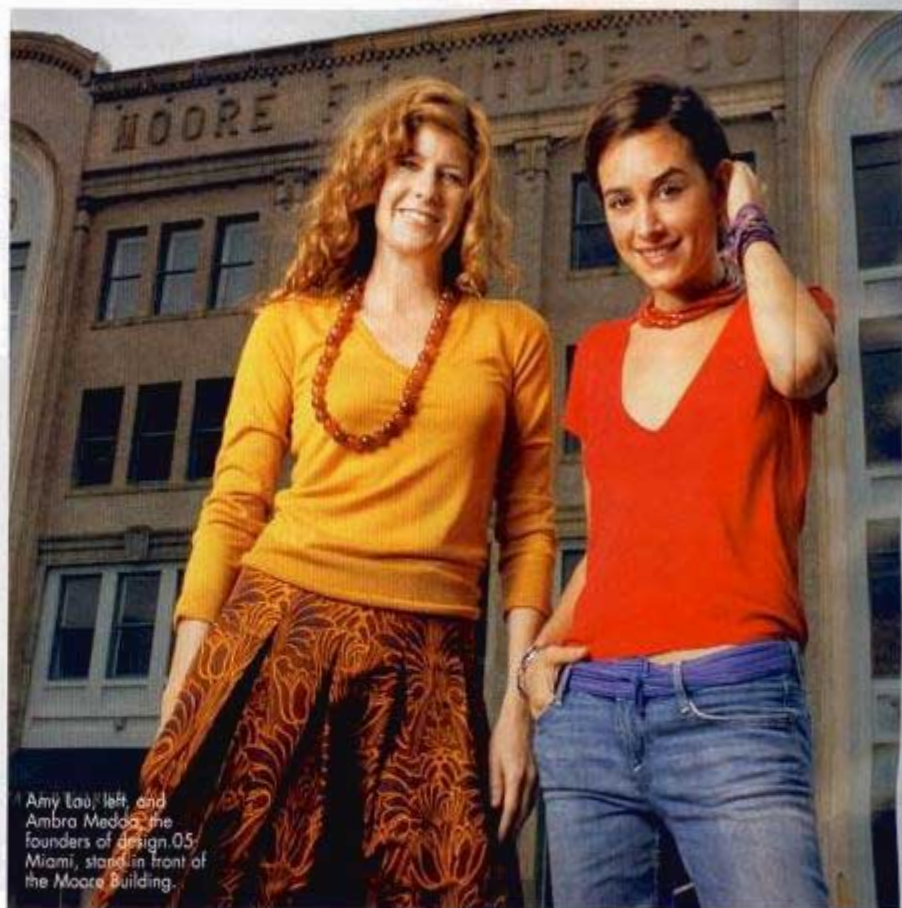
This year the world's wealthiest and most respected collectors will have a chance to leave Art Basel Miami Beach with not just pieces of art, but pieces of furniture. From December 1 through 5 at the historic Moore Building, at 191 NE 40th Street in the Design District, serious collectors and design enthusiasts are invited to buy a ticket for design.05 Miami. The event, officially endorsed by Art Basel Miami Beach, brings together 15 of the world's foremost galleries dealing with museum-quality furniture and decorative arts. Beyond selling exquisite design, the event is a chance for industry leaders to gather and discuss the state of postwar furniture design.

"Design.05 is not just about showing or selling design," said Ambra Medda, a Miami gallerist who organized the event with Amy Lou, an interior designer from New York. "It was conceived to unify every facet of the industry—culture, history and business—through displays, seminars and mini-events."

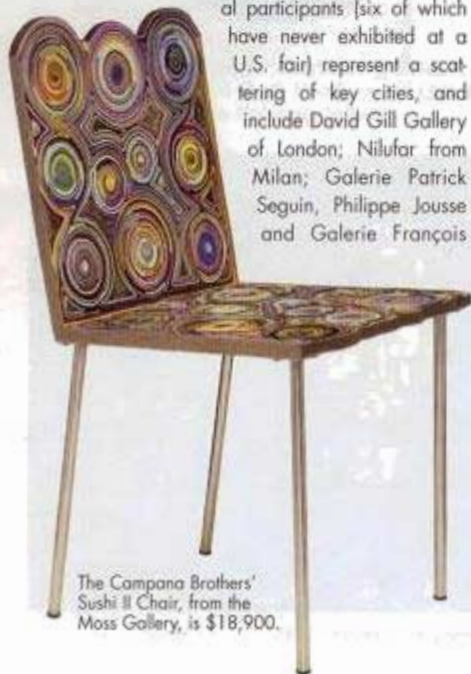
It is a triumph that it is happening at all, Lou said. "We were able to achieve remarkable results precisely because we didn't know how difficult organizing an international design fair really was."

New York galleries make up the bulk of the American participants; among them are Antik, Barry Friedman Gallery, Cristina Grajales and R 20th Century. The event's international participants (six of which have never exhibited at a U.S. fair) represent a scattering of key cities, and include David Gill Gallery of London; Nilufar from Milan; Galerie Patrick Seguin, Philippe Jousse and Galerie François

Laffanour, all from Paris, and the lone Asian inclusion, Contrast Gallery of Hong Kong.



Amy Lou, left, and Ambra Medda, the founders of design.05 Miami, stand in front of the Moore Building.



The Campana Brothers' Sushi II Chair, from the Moss Gallery, is \$18,900.

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"Design.05 has a chance to become the best design show in the world," said Zesty Meyers, a co-owner of R 20th Century. The crown jewel of the gallery's offerings, which include Wendell Castle creations priced from \$60,000 to \$300,000, is a \$250,000 four-wood chair by Joaquim Tenreiro.

The Galerie Patrick Seguin is offering a Jean Prouvé University desk from 1953, one of three made (\$240,000); a prototype Prouvé Reclining Armchair from 1948 (\$140,000); a Pierre Jeanneret Lighting Table, from 1952 to 1956 (\$280,000), and a Charlotte Perriand Free Form desk from 1958 (\$220,000).

At the center of design.05 is a site-specific architectural installation by Zaha Hadid, the event's inaugural Designer of the Year and a recent recipi-

ent of the Pritzker Architecture Prize. Occupying the Moore Building's four-floor atrium, Hadid's installation will mark the place where she and Craig Robins, the developer behind the Design District and the Aqua residential project, have a public discussion on December 4 at 6 p.m. The installation will be on display past the close of design.05.

In a satellite event, the highly respected Moss Gallery of New York is taking over the Buick Building for 05 Degrees of Separation, a display of furniture, including Maarten Baas's Robie chair, available for \$12,000. (Moss will remain there until the close of design.05, on Monday afternoon.) The Moss Gallery will also offer a chandelier by Tord Boontje and pieces by Gaetano Pesce and by the Campana Brothers. "This is the world premier of Tord Boontje's newest Blossom Chandelier," said Franklin Getchell, the president of Moss.