



## **Design Miami/ Basel 2017 Achieves Record Sales & Attendance**

- / Unseen Works of Great Historic Importance Debuted**
- / Institutional Lending Planned for Significant Works Sold at Fair**
- / Record Sales Signal High Demand for Collectible Design**
- / Unprecedented Showing of Italian Post-War Design with Notable Pieces by BBPR & Ettore Sottsass**

**Basel, June 2017/** Design Miami/ Basel concluded its highest turnover edition to-date this week with footfall of 28,800 visitors, including the world's most significant collectors of modern and contemporary design. 47 leading design galleries from more countries than any past edition exhibited including participation from 12 of the 17 founding galleries and six first-time galleries.

Jen Roberts, CEO of Design Miami/ said, "This edition of the fair confirmed for us that the global market for collectible design is as strong as ever and that the collector base for modern and contemporary design is growing. We noted major acquisitions from attendees around the globe, from New York to Lebanon and in-between."

Rodman Primack, Chief Creative Officer of Design Miami/ said, "We are in a privileged position with Design Miami/ Basel - with the support of the most influential gallerists and designers in the world - to offer a refreshing and engaging experience each year. This edition cut a broader swath across twentieth century design and included work from less commonly recognized designers like Jacques Dumont, or the Italian architects BBPR, gallery positions that underline Design Miami/Basel's role as the most important forum for collectible design and location to reach the most sophisticated collectors. Material across the fair was the strongest yet. We were also thrilled to have Thom Browne curate a moving Design at Large exhibition, reminding us that even fantastical expression is rooted in simple hard work; that rigor and discipline are the foundation for all design."

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Basel remains an essential destination for collectors, and, as a result, for gallerists.

"Design Miami/ Basel is the most important fair in the world and we see most of our customers here," said Marc Benda, Principal of Friedman Benda, which presented a solo exhibition of the late architect Ettore Sottsass, in this 100th anniversary of his life.

## **Notable Sales**

The 2017 edition of Design Miami/ Basel saw a flurry of collectors and other notable attendees throughout the week of the fair.

A rare, special commission cabinet by Ettore Sottsass sold at Giustini Stagetti/ Galleria O. Roma to an American buyer for approximately €450,000 who in turn agreed to lend the piece to the Metropolitan Museum of Art for its upcoming exhibition of the architect's work this summer. The cabinet was conceived as the main element for a private apartment in Milan furnished by Ettore Sottsass in the early 1960s called "Casa con la bambina cinese." The piece was acquired 54 years later directly from the Chinese girl herself.

Another notable successful Sottsass exhibition included a solo presentation at Friedman Benda, where several of the popular designers' more contemporary pieces were showcased and sold, including a tower cabinet from 1964, a pendant lamp from 1957 and bar cabinet designed in 1996.

Galerie Eric Philippe sold a rare lamp by the late, influential California architect John Lautner for \$85,000. Originally designed for Frank Lloyd Wright's Sturges residence of 1936, which Lautner assisted his mentor on, only two of these lamps are known to exist today, with the second lamp residing in the permanent collection of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA).

Galerie Jacques Lacoste sold a number of pieces by Jean Royère, including the *Liane Coat Hanger*, a one-of-a-kind coat hanger created by Royère in the 1960s as a private commission for Royère's close friend's home. This sculptural hanger is an iconic model and an expression of the maturity of his free form and his creative liberty, which characterizes his works during the 60s.

Within the Curio program, which was comprised of ten exhibitors, Oscar Humphries, who showcased a group of chairs made by Carlo Mollino for the RAI

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Auditorium, Torino, reported the sale of all nine chairs on preview day.

Chamber sold *The Sinking Ship* by Studio Job, the first in an edition of two, produced exclusively for Chamber and showcased for the first time outside a museum setting within Design Miami/ Basel.

The contemporary offerings at this edition of Design Miami/ Basel were also well received.

Salon 94 Design sold its entire booth which featured debut work by Max Lamb that utilized scraps of polystyrene generated during the production of Lamb's other Poly Furniture projects. As an assemblage of random offcuts, the nature of the scraps dictate the form of each piece and were coated in a metallic thermal spray, then worked to create a lush finish in either bronze, aluminum, or steel. These pieces were presented in conversation with gold jewelry by Lucas Samara.

Gallery ALL presented a debut collection of furniture by China-based MAD Architects. The entire collection presented, sold to a single buyer, a Lebanese collector, who plans to recreate the stand as displayed at Design Miami/ Basel within their home.

The week noted a steady stream of sales and acquisitions. Prominent themes of post-war Italian design and furniture by architects were favored by collectors this edition, as well as rare and unseen works by leading French designers of the twentieth century.

Experts in historic design of the twentieth century took note of the high-quality of the exhibition program this edition, given the volume of rare and unseen pieces. New York-based, award-winning architect and authority on architecture and decorative arts, Lee Mindel FAIA, said of the gallery offering, "There was such a high-level range of objects from things we have never seen, to the best of the Blue chip and to the most inspiring contemporary pieces utilizing new technologies. Each of the gallerists creating outstanding environments in their spaces as Design Basel/Miami continues to get even better."

## **Notable Attendees/**

Notable attendees of this year's edition of Design Miami/ Basel included: Adam Lindemann, Alberto Mugrabi, Alice and Tommy Tisch, Barry Friedman,

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Christophe Comoy and Luis Laplace, Chuck and Helen Schwab, Daniel Arsham, Estrilita Brodsky, Florian Idenburg, Giovanna Battaglia, India Mahdavi, Jean Pigozzi, Jil Sander, Julie Hillman, Kenny Schachter, Laurence Graff, Lee Mindel, Leon Black, Marc Spiegler, Mera and Don Rubell, Michaela Nuemiester and Simon de Pury, Michele Lamy, Michelle and Jason Rubell, Mike Ovitz and Tamara Mellon, Mirka Federer, Mounir Neamatalla, Nadja Swarovski, Nina Baier-Bischofberger, Noam Gottesman, Peter Brant, Philipp Schaerer, Robert Stilin, Howard and Cindy Rachofsky, Sarah and Austin Harrelson, Silvia Cubina, Simon Castets, Stavros Niarchos, Stefano Poli, Stephanie Seymour, Thom Browne and Tony Vischer.

## **UNAIDS Gala/**

The second UNAIDS Gala returned to Design Miami/ Basel to raise awareness and funds to support efforts to end AIDS by the year 2030. Hosted by Her Royal Highness Princess Eugenie of York, Caroline Rupert, and Ndaba Mandela, the evening honored the legacy of longtime AIDS activist Dame Elizabeth Taylor and included a live auction run by Simon de Pury with rare and one-of-a-kind works from gallerists exhibiting at Design Miami/ Basel.

## **Design At Large/**

For 2017, Design Miami/ Basel tapped the visionary mind of notable American fashion designer Thom Browne to curate the Design at Large installation. It was the first time a fashion designer was invited to stage the large-scale entryway exhibition.

Browne exhibited a precise grid of important desks from the last one hundred years, each along with an accompanying lamp and chair. The exhibition, which was compiled with the support of Design Miami/ Basel gallerists, included statement pieces from masters such as Jean Prouvé, Charles and Ray Eames, Pierre Jeanneret, André Sornay and Ron Arad. The grid of desks faced off with a conceptual installation Browne designed in 2014 for his Fall / Winter 2014 Men's Runway Show titled *Hunters/Animals*, which was restaged for this exhibition.

Browne directed an hour-long performance on the opening day of the fair in which 16 local female students from ECAL and FHNW, were cast as students in a silent procession, during which each produced an artwork while seated within the installation.

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“I wanted this installation to be in dialogue with the gallery program but to challenge the visitor by repositioning historic furniture as players on a stage. To pay homage to the work in an environment that invites both reverence and reinterpretation. I drew upon the continuum of a single design staple – the desk – as it has moved through time from the beginnings of modern design until today,” said Thom Browne of the exhibition.

## **Design Curio/**

The 2017 Design Curios offered snapshots into today’s design landscape through ten focused vignettes created specifically to debut within the fair’s halls. Interspersed throughout the gallery program, the Curio spaces provided installations for guests to explore that uncovered departures from previous interpretations of collectible design and offered new ideas, experiences, and materials. Spanning the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, the presentations drew from artists and designers whose work intersects with film, fashion, jewelry, architecture, porcelain, and performance. Curios included 88 Gallery, Atelier Swarovski, Label Dalbin, OV Project, Oscar Humphries, Priveekollektie Contemporary Art | Design, Scholten & Baijings, Sokyō Gallery, SUPERGUFRAM and Suzanne Syz.

## **Additional Programming**

Design Miami/ was delighted to tap the visionary mind of Claudio Loria, the founder of Milan-based, creative lab, Lecllettico. Loria designed the inviting Collectors Lounge for this edition of Design Miami/ Basel inspired by the lab’s unique creative direction, as an oasis within the fair broken into intimate spaces, a labyrinth of curiosities. The lounge is unified by a lushly patterned custom carpet and punctuated by groupings of vintage and contemporary design pieces including stark aluminum arcade benches by Jean Nouvel, an inviting set of Lady Sofas by Marco Zanuso and some pieces designed by Loria himself.

The 2017 Swarovski Designers of the Future- TAKT PROJECT, Marjan van Aubel, and Jimenez Lai- produced one cohesive exhibition that featured the world’s first 3-D crystal printing, revolutionary solar cell technology and innovative crystal upcycling.

The esteemed Swiss company Laufen presented *A Curated Art Show. What?*, featuring seventeen sculptures by artists, designers, and architects including Konstantin Grcic, Toan Nguyen, Patricia Urquiola, Bastien Aubry and

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Dimitri Broquard, in celebration of Laufen's anniversary, documenting the company's reference points, values, and milestones more.

*Muraba Residences Palm Jumeirah* presented fairgoers with an experience evocative of the luminous and airy Muraba Residences in Dubai, which tapped Spanish architecture firm RCR Arquitectes, the 2017 Pritzker Prize laureates, for its design.

Kenny Schachter presented *Rove Cars presents #MANUAL* which included 13 handmade, quirky cars from Schachter's personal collection spanning the 1950s through the 1990s.

do you read me?! returned to Design Miami/ Basel for the seventh time, featuring a wide range of books, periodicals, and publications as well as rare printed materials co-curated by Swiss art book publisher Kodoji Press.

## **2017 Gallery Program/**

ammann//gallery/ Cologne

Caroline Van Hoek/ Brussels

Carpenters Workshop Gallery/ Paris London & New York

Casati Gallery/ Chicago

Chamber/ New York

Cristina Grajales Gallery/ New York

Dansk Møbelkunst Gallery/ Copenhagen & Paris

Demisch Danant/ New York

Erastudio Apartment-Gallery/ Milan

Etage Projects/ Copenhagen

Friedman Benda/ New York

Galerie Alain Marcelpoil/ Paris

Galerie Eric Philippe/ Paris

Galerie Jacques Lacoste/ Paris

Galerie kreo/ Paris & London

Galerie Maria Wettergren/ Paris

Galerie Matthieu Richard/ Paris

Galerie Pascal Cuisinier/ Paris

Galerie Patrick Seguin/ Paris & London

Galerie Philippe Gravier/ Paris

Galerie VIVID/ Rotterdam

Galeria Antonella Villanova/ Florence

# Design/ Miami/ Basel

Galleria Rossella Colombari/ Milan  
Galleri Feldt/ Copenhagen  
Gallery ALL/ Los Angeles & Beijing  
Gallery FUMI/ London  
Gate 5/ Monaco  
Giustini/Stagetti Galleria O. Roma/ Rome  
Heritage Gallery/ Moscow  
Hostler Burrows/ New York  
Jousse Entreprise/ Paris  
LAFFANOUR - Galerie Downtown/ Paris  
Magen H. Gallery/ New York  
MANIERA/ Brussels  
Marc Heiremans/ Brussels  
Mercado Moderno/ Rio de Janeiro  
Nilufar Gallery/ Milan  
Ornamentum/ Hudson  
Pierre Marie Giraud/ Brussels  
R & Company/ New York  
Robert Zehil Gallery/ Monte Carlo  
Salon 94 Design/ New York  
Sarah Myerscough Gallery/ London  
Siegelson/ New York  
Thomas Fritsch - ARTRIUM/ Paris  
Todd Merrill Studio/ New York  
Victor Hunt Designart Dealer/ Brussels

## **Curios/**

88 Gallery/ Hong Kong & Paris  
Atelier Swarovski/ London  
Label Dalbin/ Paris  
OV Project/ Brussels  
Oscar Humphries/ London  
Priveekollektie Contemporary Art | Design/ Heusden aan de Maas  
Scholten & Baijings/ Amsterdam  
Sokyo Gallery/ Kyoto  
SUPERGUFRAM/ Barolo  
Suzanne Syz/ Geneva

## **Notes to the Editor/**



Schedule of Events/

Preview Day/ By invitation only, Monday, June 12, 2017

Public Show Days

Tuesday, June 13–Sunday, June 18, 2017

**About Design Miami/**

Design Miami/ is the global forum for design. Each fair brings together the most influential collectors, gallerists, designers, curators, and critics from around the world in celebration of design culture and commerce. Occurring alongside the Art Basel fairs in Miami each December and Basel, Switzerland, each June, Design Miami/ has become the premier venue for collecting, exhibiting, discussing, and creating collectible design. For more information, please visit [designmiami.com](http://designmiami.com).

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