



PAD London: Art + Design fair

Galerie Downtown at PAD

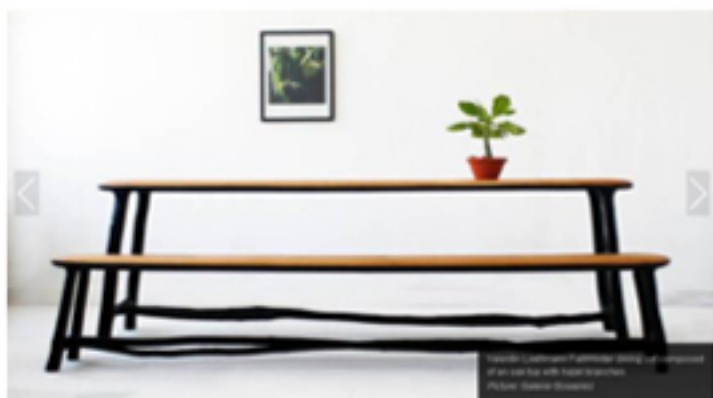
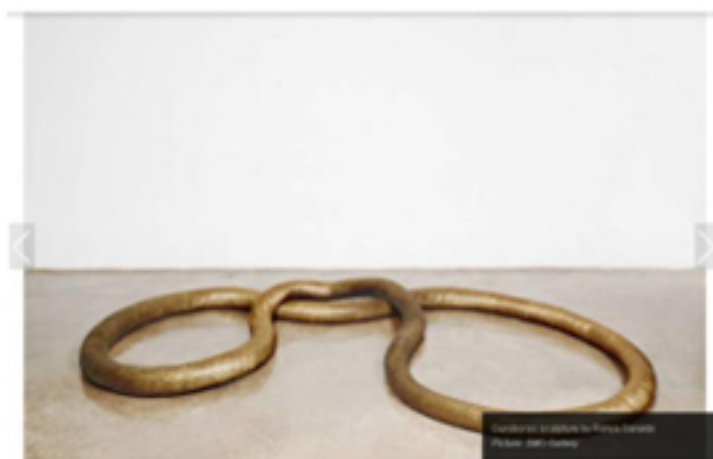
Small, sophisticated and eclectic, PAD is a honeypot for collectors in the know

WEDNESDAY, OCT 16 - SUNDAY, OCT 20

The people behind the PAD (Pavillion of Art + Design) fairs have given some thought to how we collect for our homes today. A classical marble bust set against a 1960s geometric rug? Eclectic works for us, and the days of matchy-matchy interiors are over.

PAD pulls together a wide range of styles. The focus is on contemporary design, 19th and 20th century art and decorative arts but you'll also find galleries dealing in works from Antiquity and other eras and genres. This year some 60 galleries and designers will show, including Garrido Gallery (decorative arts), Michael Hoppen Gallery (photography), Jousse Entreprise (20th-century furniture), Galerie Kreo (contemporary design) and Galerie Gmurzynska (modern painting).







Foreign affair: PAD 2013

A trio of guest galleries from Paris, Madrid and Beirut has spiced up this year's PAD



BY HENRIETTA THOMPSON
OCTOBER 17, 2013 10:43

While Frieze might be holding the entire art world to hostage inside its vast tent in Regents Park, a few blocks further south another canvas structure is drawing a slightly different kind of collector. Occupying the black marquee in Berkeley Square for the seventh year, the [Pavilion of Art and Design](#), dedicated entirely to design and 20th-century art, positions its Picassos next to pieces by Prouvé, and astonishing exhibits from the cream of contemporary design. Here – carefully arranged around the trunks of Berkeley Square's trees – fine jewellery meets photographer meets tribal art and sculpture. It's a veritable feast of eclectic connoisseurship, and if you're buying, you'll need to be focused.



Ursule lamp by Gabriel Elise, Galerie Gosserez

This year there are 60 galleries on show, representing museum-quality work from across the globe. While it's always a pleasure to peruse, [PAD London](#) is also often a rather similar experience year on year, but this year, several surprises came courtesy of a number of new exhibitors. Three in particular, all exhibiting in London for the very first time, stood out as being especially worth a visit.

[↖ Enlarge](#)

I nearly walked straight by [Gallery Gosserez](#) in the first instance, so understated was its booth. But something had caught my eye and I doubled back. I'm very pleased I did, because everything here is astonishingly beautiful. Established in Paris's NoMa district (that's the north of the Marais, don't you know) three years ago by Marie-Bérangère Gosserez, this gallery is dedicated to rare but functional, original and contemporary design furniture. Gosserez herself – who has worked previously dealing antiques at Les Puces flea market before a stint as coordinator for Christie's Paris auction house – clearly has a good eye and a deep understanding of design. I loved the Syzygy Collection of mirror lamps by Dutch design duo [Os & Oos](#), and the Opper lounge chair by [Grégoire de Lafforest](#), most of all. But it was the Spring-Summer console by [Valentin Loellmann](#) that picked up PAD's best in show award, and well deserved that was too.



Sculpture "Shhh" by gt2p, Galerie Gosserez

[↖ Enlarge](#)

It was much harder to walk past the mesmerising polished silver and gold surfaces of the furniture pieces at [Garrido Gallery](#), visiting from Madrid with their wares for the first time. These second generation silversmiths, Juan and Paloma Garrido, together with a skilled workshop of makers, have breathed fresh air into this prestigious firm in recent years. While they continue to reproduce their father's

beautiful pieces, their focus today is on creating their own works: in addition to well known collaborations with Asprey, Hermès (see the latest Puiforcat pieces) and Christofle, at PAD you can see their extraordinary and timeless new furniture pieces.

Beirut's [SMO Gallery](#) was another hypnotic affair, thanks largely to the works of [Ranya Sarakbi](#). This self-taught Lebanese painter and sculptor, based in Beirut and Milan, creates functional vessels and wearable ornaments (to call them jewellery would belittle them), as well as sculpture so intricate it's impossible not to gasp – such as the huge infinitely looped serpent constructed painstakingly from 16,000 cast bronze elements and created entirely by hand. Her golden feather collar would be worthy of a genuine angel.

All these galleries professed to having had a hugely successful first night and many pieces are already sold, so if you do want to pick up these antiques of the future, find some wings.

PAD continues until Sunday October 20.

PAD LONDON: ART + DESIGN

Berkeley Square
London
W1
www.pad-fairs.com
[Map](#)