

MONOCLE

SATURDAY. 14/10/2023

Monocle Weekend Edition: Saturday

Down to a fine art

We begin this weekend **people-watching in the marquees of Frieze London** with our editor in chief, Andrew Tuck, before getting our kicks from **New Balance's latest iteration of its iconic trainers, taking a dip in a Zürich lake** and casting our eye over the covetable **art and furniture once owned by mysterious collectors** at a London auction.



Image: Francisco Nogueira

Grape minds

If you're in the UK capital this weekend, be sure to add Pad London to your itinerary. The event, which runs alongside Frieze and wraps up tomorrow, is a showcase of furniture and wares from leading galleries and designers.

Among them this year is Portugal-based furniture-maker Mircea Anghel; in his workshop in a grand sawmill on a vineyard-lined estate south of Lisbon, he has made a new selection of cabinets and tables from wood, stone and metal. Here, Anghel tells us about his end-of-week rituals and how he likes to start the day.

Why is showing your work at Pad London important?

It's something that I have wanted to do for a long time. I came across Pad Paris about five years ago while working in finance. I was at a bad point in my career and when I went to the show, I thought, "Wow, I want to do this."

Which of your forthcoming projects should we be keeping an eye on?

I'm currently taking on the long-term redevelopment of a property close to my studio, which is a combination of an art residency and a hotel, and has a focus on ecology. I want it to be a paradise in which artists, designers and scientists can explore their creativity. It's a way of developing a property without destroying the landscape.

What news source do you wake up to?

I spend at least 10 minutes enjoying my surroundings before looking at the news. I like to gaze across the river and listen to the birds. Then I open Bloomberg. It's important to understand what's happening around me.

Coffee, tea or something pressed to go with headlines?

I'll smoke a cigarette and have a double espresso.

Something from the FM dial or Spotify for your tunes?

I'm a Soundcloud person. I have a big sound system in my studio and joke with my team that I'm their DJ. We use music to find the right mood for the work that we're doing, whether it's finishing a project or trying something new.

What's that you're humming in the shower?

The shower is where I talk to myself and try to analyse what I'm doing with my family, with my colleagues and with my work. It's my psychologist and it wouldn't feel right to be humming there.

Five magazines for your weekend sofa-side stack?

I like to buy books about designers rather than magazines. I draw on them and use them as notebooks. I feel a bit guilty – as though it's some sort of pagan ritual – but it's exciting to work on top of other people's work.

Going anywhere nice this year?

I always have clients in amazing locations. This month I'm heading to Mont Blanc and the south of France. I'll also go to Morocco with my family. I lived there when I was younger and like to take my kids.

What's on the airwaves before bed?

Indian flute music. Sometimes I sleep with music playing and the windows open, as long as there are no mosquitos. At the end of the week, I also like to look at all of the things that I wrote and have a long conversation with my wife, who is a neuroscientist. This is always with a glass of wine – I have a wine business too and the vineyards are in front of my studio.