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STORIES

Amass appeal

We asked five gallerists from the world's premier collectable design destination to give us their inside tips on who to buy and why

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Turning 10 last year, the Pavilion of Art and Design (PAD) is one of the best places to test the mood of the international collectable design market. With outposts in Paris and Geneva, its London edition overlaps with Frieze this October, offering some much-needed calm and contemplation amid the clamour that is Frieze week. With the luxury design market booming, there's never been a better time to invest. All featured designs are on show at PAD.

PAD runs from 2-8 October in London. For more information, visit pad-fairs.com



WONMIN PARK

selected by Carpenters Workshop Gallery

What: Contemporary South Korean design.

Why: South Korea is having a moment. In pop music there's even a name for it – the K Wave – and this cultural tsunami is now dominating beauty, luxury and contemporary art, where Korean talent is finding a global audience. Design is not immune either and young designers are leaving their mark on the international scene, while finding their way into the world's best collections.

Who: Wonmin Park is a master of colour, light and form, using materials that have uncanny, translucent qualities – such as resin. His new work on show at PAD, Plain Cuts, explores ideas surrounding emptiness and eternity – subject matters deeply rooted in Korean philosophical tradition.

BÖRGE MOGENSEN

selected by Modernity Gallery

What: Scandinavian mid-century furniture.

Why: Unless you've been hiding under a poorly designed rock for the past decade, you will have noticed the craze for all things Scandinavian and mid-century. It's become the dominant aesthetic from private homes to upmarket cafes, but this has also flooded the market with poor quality replicas. True masterpieces of Scandinavian design are increasingly hard to come by but are the best to invest in.

Who: This Börge Mogensen library table was made for the cabinetmaker Erhard Rasmussen and first exhibited at the Röhsska Museum in Gothenburg, Sweden, in 1955. In a market dominated by the likes of Arne Jacobsen and Finn Juhl, Danish-born Mogensen has been undervalued for some time, but his more unique pieces are starting to be recognised as some of the most original (and collectable) works of the era.



BETHAN LAURA WOOD

selected by Nilufar Gallery

What: Contemporary British design.

Why: Design's noisy neighbour – contemporary art – has tended to grab the headlines but, bolstered by increasingly influential events such as the London Design Festival and new talent pouring out of world-class schools such as the Royal College of Art (RCA), this is no longer the case. Contemporary British design is now seen as some of the most innovative, playful and provocative in the world, meaning it's a market to watch.

Who: Only two years out of the RCA, Bethan Laura Wood was picked up by Milanese design doyenne Nina Yashar (who runs Nilufar Gallery). The designer won the Swarovski Young Emerging Talent medal last year and has worked with brands from Hermès to Bitossi. This Melon Dining Table is her first collaboration with marble inlay master Budri.

PETER COLLINGWOOD

selected by Rose Uniacke Gallery

What: British mid-century weaving.

Why: Wall hangings can feel twee and perhaps best left in the 1970s, but the recent resurgence of traditional craft disciplines such as ceramics has also led to a revival in the fortunes of macramé, weaving and knitting. Mid-century British ceramicists, such as Lucie Rie and Hans Coper, now command stratospheric prices at auction houses such as Sotheby's, meaning that other crafts are ripe for revival.

Who: Little known, but with a roster of important exhibitions to his name, Peter Collingwood was the pre-eminent British artist weaver of the 20th century. He taught, he wrote, he designed and travelled to America and Asia to further his craft. Technically adept, he broke new ground in his field while being recognised as an expert in textiles and weaving.



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JOAQUIM TENREIRO selected by Galerie Le Beau

What: Brazilian modernist furniture.

Why: This period in Latin American design has become much sought after in recent years, perfectly suiting the current taste for minimalist yet warm interiors. Neither mass-produced nor much exported, Brazilian modernist pieces are still relatively rare on the European market.

Who: Generally recognised as the founding father of Brazilian design, Joaquim Tenreiro is a star showing at Galerie Le Beau this October. Capturing that uniquely Brazilian sun-drenched savoir-faire, his work heavily references European modernism but transforms it through use of exotic woods and sensual shapes that feel uniquely Latin American.

