

Rose Uniacke, Galerie Gosserez and Galerie Le Beau prevail at the 2017 PAD Awards

DESIGN / 3 OCT 2017 / BY SUJATA BURMAN



Rose Uniacke was awarded Best Stand at this year's PAD Awards

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The 11th London edition of the Pavilion of Art & Design (PAD) opened yesterday, celebrating the pinnacle in contemporary design, collectables, art, sculpture and jewellery. The highlights from the fair are recognised annually in the PAD Awards, a significant aspect of the showcase.

Yesterday, a jury led by Jasper Morisson, and including our very own brand and content director Tony Chambers, designer Tom Dixon, curator Jane Withers, and Serpentine Galleries CEO Yana Peel among others gathered to explore the array of booths on offer in Mayfair's Berkeley Square, before announcing the winners at the prestigious collectors lunch, co-hosted by Wallpaper*. Just three accolades are up for grabs at the PAD Awards, with 68 booths from this year's event competing for the Best Stand, Best Contemporary Design Piece and Best 20th-Century Design Piece.

British interior designer and art dealer Rose Uniacke scooped top honours for her booth, where her vintage and modern pieces (our favourite, a 1930s antique games table) were presented against a fresh yellow backdrop that she describes as ‘uplifting yet soothing’. This is not the first time she has won the award – back in 2015 the judges awarded Uniacke for her booth’s striking use of blue, a departure from traditional stand design.



The sleek Cavunia plywood skeleton of Jose Zanine Caldas' lounge chair (1949)

Paris-based Galerie Gosserez, meanwhile, won the prize for Best Contemporary Design with Valentin Loellmann’s ‘Copper Corner’ bench, which was found hugging a tree inside the French gallery’s booth. Notable for its dynamic, boomerang shape, the bench reveals its most impressive aspect upon closer inspection: a deft use of materials. Loellmann seamlessly melded copper and charred oak to appear as one material in the thin benchtop that is elegantly bent in each corner. ‘The appearance is present but remains light and timeless,’ explained the designer.

The Best 20th Century Design prize went to Brussels’ Galerie Le Beau for its 1949 lounge chair by the late José Zanine Caldas. Comprising a charming base of Cavunia plywood, rope and fabric, the modernist piece exudes the Brazilian designer’s affinity for forest materials and craft carving.

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Paris-based Galerie Gosserez won the Best Contemporary Design award for Valentin Loellmann's 'Copper Corner' bench

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The 'Copper Corner' bench has an intriguing boomerang shape

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Winning Best 20th-Century Design was Brussels-based Galerie Le Beau with a 1949 lounge chair by the late José Zanine Caldas