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DESIGN

By Design | The 10 Best Pieces at This Year's Design Miami

DESIGN | By TOM DELAVAN | DECEMBER 11, 2013, 6:04 PM



Helga Traxler for The New York Times

From left: Gérard Mannoni's floor lamp at Magen H; Sterling Ruby's wood stove at Pierre Marie Giraud; David Wiseman's gate at R20.

Design Miami, the nine-year-old satellite fair to **Art Basel in Miami Beach**, is known for showcasing works by modern masters like Jean Prouvé and Charlotte Perriand. This year proved no different, with prefab houses by both on display (Prouvé's built within the Design Miami tent, Perriand's on the beach behind the Raleigh Hotel). But in addition to the large-scale showstoppers, there were numerous more intimate works of interest. Many dealers showed jewelry or decorative objects alongside furniture. Several galleries created complete residential settings in which they installed their pieces. Demish Danant, for example, felt like a Parisian apartment from the 1970s with its boiserie and wall-to-wall carpeting. And while a few galleries did show new work, objects from the '40s to the '70s were predominant, adding to the fair's throwback feel. Here is some of the best this year's Design Miami had to offer.

1) Gérard Mannoni lighting at Magen H

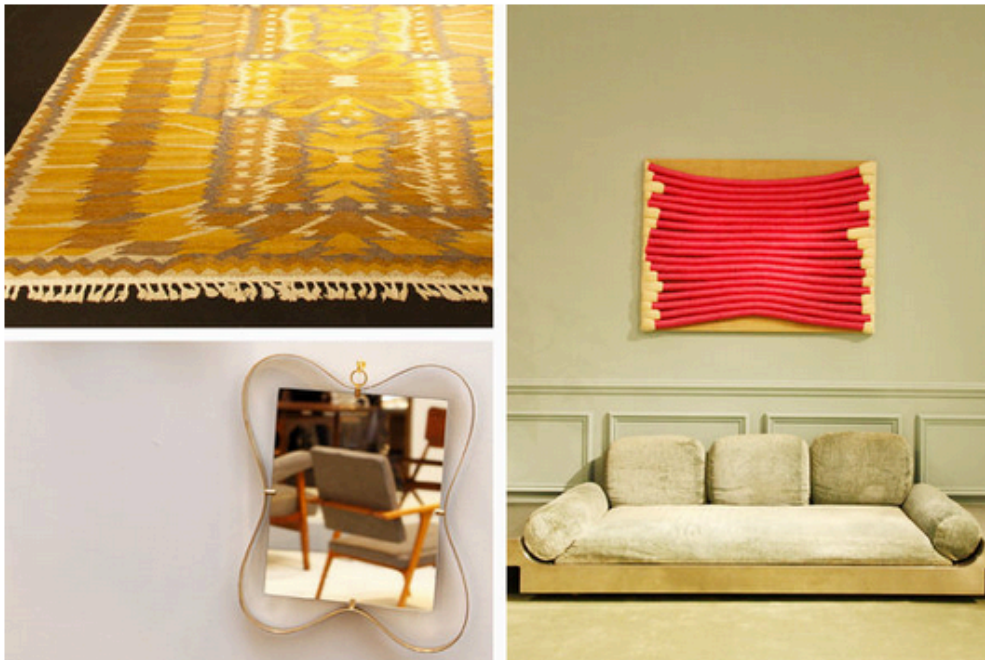
This 1973 floor lamp by the French furniture designer could stand on its own as sculpture. But once it's turned on, the soft light on the brushed metal surface adds another dimension. magenxxcentury.com

2) Sterling Ruby wood stove at Pierre Marie Giraud

This stove by the superstar installation artist has a simple stylized form, offering a modern-day interpretation of Ruby's childhood memories in front of the fire in rural Pennsylvania. pierremeriegiraud.com

3) David Wiseman gate at R20

This contemporary bronze gate by the young Los Angeles-based designer David Wiseman incorporates decorative motifs from Japanese textiles along with branches with delicate ceramic blossoms. r20thcentury.com



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Clockwise from top left: Barbro Nilsson's rug at Marta Maas-Fjetterstrom; Shelia Hicks's wall hanging and Maria Pergay's sofa, both at Demisch Danant; the Fontana Arte mirror at Casati.

4) Barbro Nilsson rug at Hostler Burrows

The Swedish master weaver created this 1958 rug for the legendary Stockholm atelier Marta Maas-Fjetterstrom. Traditionally, such rugs were made to be double sided. The gallerist Kim Hostler flipped this one to show its brighter side. hostlerburrows.com

5) Shelia Hicks wall hanging at Demisch Danant

The American artist is one of the most important textile artists of the 20th century. Her 1977 Cord structure was a particularly eye-catching magenta. demischdanant.com

6) Maria Pergay sofa at Demisch Danant

The Parisian designer is known for transforming stainless steel from an industrial material to one suitable for the home. This low daybed with built in-side tables from 1968 is a great example of utility combined with elegance. demischdanant.com

7) Fontana Arte mirror at Casati

In this 1960 mirror, one of a pair from the legendary Italian design company, the glass is suspended in a delicate curvilinear frame. casatigallery.com



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Clockwise from top left: Gerd Rothman's bracelet at Ornamantum; Ico Parisi's lamp at Sebastian + Barquet; Walter Lamb's outdoor furniture at Mark McDonald.

8) Gerd Rothman jewelry at Ornamantum

The German gold- and silversmith is known for experimental jewelry that is as conceptual as it is decorative. The finely cast fingerprints on this contemporary bracelet make it as tactile as it is wearable. ornamentumgallery.com

9) Ico Parisi lighting at Sebastian + Barquet

The gallerist Ramis Barquet found this '60s lamp by the midcentury Italian designer Ico Parisi in an apartment in Rome. Rather than trying to conceal its cords, Parisi turned them into a design element. sebastianbarquet.com

10) Walter Lamb seating at Mark McDonald

The American furniture designer was ahead of his time in terms of recycling. In the late '40s, he stretched nautical cotton cording across bronze frames to create his elegantly rugged outdoor furniture. markmcdonald.biz