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PROJECTS

PRODUCTS

DESIGNWIRE

VIDEOS

HOMES

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10 Highlights from Salon Art + Design

Words: Osman Can Yerebakan Visiting a fair should unfold similar to turning the pages of a magazine, says <u>Salon Art + Design</u> executive director Jill Bokor. Coming from a nearly 25-year experience in publishing, Bokor pays attention to the instances of discovery across the fair booths, just like flipping through a glossy read. "Salon celebrates the continuum of design through centuries, so we create jumping points between objects from B.C. to the contemporary," she tells *Interior Design*.

The fair's upcoming 10th edition at the Park Avenue Armory celebrates many firsts: for one, the booths exhibit objects from broad geographies, such as Japan and the African continent; on the material side, jewelry, minerals, glass, and wallpaper make their Salon debut. There will even be a runway show by the New York-based fashion line <u>Spoliā</u> on November 13. Bokor considers the noticeable abundance of firsts in this iteration a positive aspect of the pandemic-related restrictions. "Most of our European galleries could not attend, so suddenly we had room available for a wider range of exhibitors from the US," she explains. "This a moment for contemporary American design to shine and demonstrate its diversity."

Another consequence of the pandemic is reflected in aesthetic tendencies. In comparison to former iterations, Bokor notes that the objects emphasize utilitarianism over edge given the sudden escalation in time spent at home. "We all realized we needed to change up our interiors, but we knew we would be using everything for a while." Thus, she says the search for function has overshadowed the avant-garde or the trendy. "Collectors look for objects they can easily live with and use," she adds and notes the number of practical pieces among even contemporary galleries. Regardless, Bokor underlines that design has not gone anywhere and the fair's decennial celebrates it in all aspects.

A total of 46 exhibitors and nine installations occupy the Armory's gilded Drill Hall, as well as many ornate nooks and rooms for special displays—the experience of visiting the decorated building itself is once again a voyage to the former century. Here are our 10 highlights from the fair which runs from November 11-15.



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Hostler Burrows



Martin Bodilsen Kaldahl's Spatial Drawing series.

Another local gallery that builds a parallel between its booth and elsewhere is <u>Hostler Burrows</u>. The Los Angeles and New York-based Scandinavian art- and design-focused gallery's East Village location currently hosts the group exhibition, *Matter At Hand: Ten Artists in Denmark*, which features new works by 10 Danish artists and designers. In parallel, their booth is a nod to Danish creativity, with biomorphic hand-built glazed stoneware sculptures by Martin Bodilsen Kaldahl from his *Spatial Drawings* series and Steep Ipsen's popping ruby-hued glazed earthenware sculpture, Eclipse 3. If you're fascinated by Bodilsen Kaldahl's eye-catching serpent pieces, travel downtown for their wall-hanging versions.