

OCTOBER 2018

mayfair times

VIVIENNE WESTWOOD'S DESERT ISLAND BOOKS
in celebration of the Mayfair & St James's Literary Festival
PLUS: Simon Callow and PAD London



FROM TOP: Franck Evennou, *Three Lotus Leaves* coffee table; Hubert Le Galle *Sunflower* candlesticks
Both courtesy Avant Scène;

Third-generation gem and jewellery dealer Lee Siegelson will be bringing examples of fine gemstones and diamonds, antique and estate jewellery and own-brand pieces from New York; and Geneva-based Suzanne Syz, the designer known for her unconventional designs inspired as much by classical jewellery as the 1980s New York art scene she traversed alongside the likes of Andy Warhol and Jean Michel Basquiat, will show her vibrant constructions; while Munich's Hemmerle, a fourth-generation family-run house will showcase the innovative material combinations, bold designs and dedication to craftsmanship apparent in each of its pieces.

CONTEMPORARY DESIGN INSPIRED BY NATURE

The natural world is increasingly a point of influence for many industries – from fashion to restaurants and music; but none more so than design, which has seen countless makers and craftspeople adopt the artful patterns, alien forms and organic lines witnessed in nature. This year's PAD London is set to put the spotlight on a number of designers and artists who are embracing wildlife in a big way.

Sasha Sykes, who is represented at the fair by Peter Petrou, will have her stunning *Gyre (From the sea)* exhibited: a work combining foraged material – from algae to more complex forms like birds' nests – with hand-cast resin suspending the vivid colours and patterns seen in nature. Sykes' pieces adopt a strong sense of composition, thanks to her training as an architect – a facet to her work that contrasts interestingly with her focus on the unpredictable forms of the natural world.

Peter Petrou is also bringing Danish glassmaker Steffen Dam to PAD London; Dam captures otherworldly shapes inspired by embryonic underwater life forms within glass. The artist-come-craftsman creates these pieces, which owe heavily to the "cabinet of curiosities" collections that began in the late 16th century, by combining impurities like air bubbles, ash, soot and cracks with metallic oxides and foils to preserve three-dimensional shapes in both flat panels and in solid glass cylinders.

Taking natural inspiration in a less literal direction is German-born, Netherlands-based woodworker and designer Valentin Loellmann, who, from his Maastricht studio, creates flawless designs inspired by nature's organic forms, with all joints hidden to preserve the illusion of these supremely crafted objects coming from the natural world. In 2013, Loellmann's spring-summer console was awarded PAD London's Best Contemporary Design Piece; and his works have been exhibited in renowned museums including Lausanne's MUDAC and Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam. The designer's works are represented by Paris's Galerie Gosserez.

Also from Paris is Galerie Avant-Scène – Elisabeth Delacarte's powerhouse set on Place de l'Odéon. This year's fair will see the gallery display pieces that blur the lines between art and design – which look to the abstract outlines and intricate markings that appear on leaves, shells, stems, stalactites and honeycomb. Exhibiting artists include Franck Evennou with his *Three Leaves* and *Aloe* side tables; Mark Brazier-Jones' *Molecular Agate Console*; and Hubert Le Gall's *Sunflower* candlesticks.

