

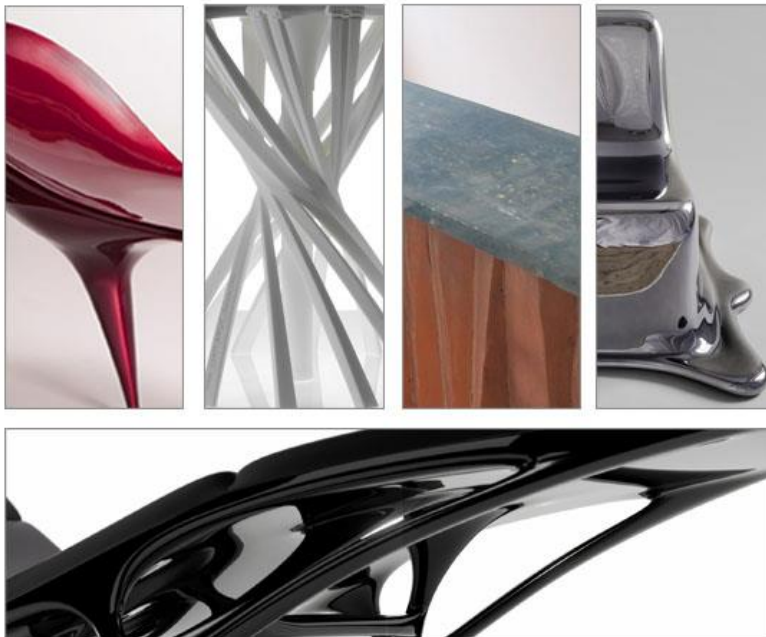
WEXLER GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT: Joy Deibert
Associate Director
Wexler Gallery
(215) 923-7030
joy@wexlergallery.com

Gallery Selects: By Design

A curated selection of staff favorites



WEXLER GALLERY
July 5 – September 27, 2014

PHILADELPHIA- In the main space, Wexler Gallery is honored to present *Gallery Selects: By Design*. This exhibition will feature a curated collection of high-quality design pieces by important designers from all over the world. Each work has been carefully selected by Lewis Wexler, Sherri Apter Wexler, Melissa Montiel, Nick Lenker and Joy Deibert to present a cohesive and inspirational look at the various materials, processes and concepts that innovative designers and design studios are exploring today. Featured artists will include **Philipp Aduatz, Vivian Beer, Wendell Castle,**

WEXLER GALLERY

Brian Gladwell, HildenDiaz, Gregory Nangle, Timothy Schreiber and Susan Woods. The show will run from July 5th through September 27th. ***A Closing Reception will take place on First Friday, September 5th, from 5 – 8pm.**

Encouraging our viewers to explore the possibilities of various mediums and then its applications, our exhibition will present objects that are rooted in historical significance, ambitious design practices and innovative technologies. Functional seating, wall dividers, mirrors and fixtures made from various materials such as glass, wood, stainless steel and other mixed media will be on view. Our staff has selected their personal favorites from this exhibition, and explain why particular pieces in this collection are important from a technical and aesthetic point of view.

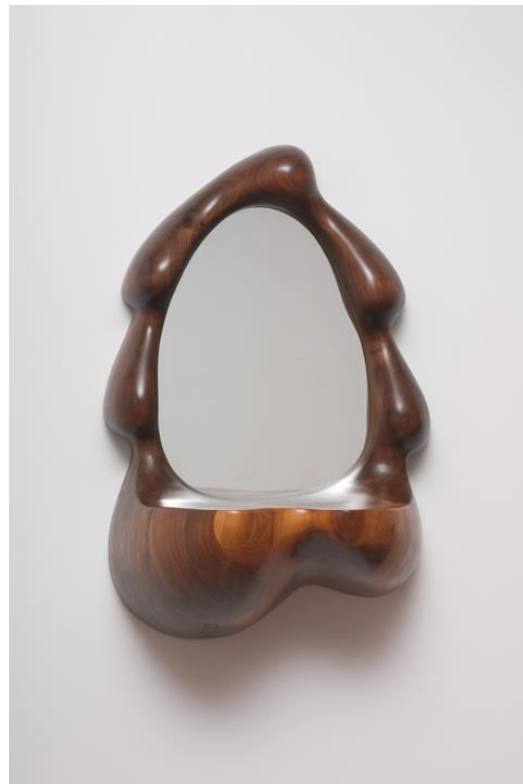
Wendell Castle
Mirror, 1975
Stack-laminated walnut, mirror
17 X 10 1/4 X 26 inches

“Wendell Castle is an artist who never ceases to amaze me. He is still productive and relevant at 80. Arguably the leading American designer/maker working today, Wendell is constantly challenging himself as a designer and taking his audience along for the ride.

I have shown his work for 15 years and although I love his new work, the pieces Wendell produced in the late 1960's and 70's strike a chord in me. Perhaps it is the beauty of the wood or the amorphic sensibility of the pieces, but work of that era takes my breath away. I think part of the appeal is that you can see the influence of people like Wharton Esherick in Wendell's work. I love the sense of a continuum of the history of American making and it is strikingly clear to me that Wendell was the heir apparent to Esherick when you look at his work from the 60's -70's.

The Mirror that you see here is a sweet gem from Wendell's work from the 60's. It has everything that I love from the time period, the naturalist shape, the beautiful grain of the wood and the sense of history. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.”

-Lewis Wexler



WEXLER GALLERY

Brian Gladwell
Rocking Horse, 2010
Cardboard, dowel, dye, and lacquer
35 1/2 X 12 1/2 X 24 1/2 inches

Brian Gladwell's rocking horse has always been a favorite of mine. Maybe because of the playful sense of childhood innocence it evokes. But certainly because of Gladwell's choice of materials. It begs the question of why the artist chose corrugated cardboard. Is the object meant to be admired and not used? Or is the degeneration of the cardboard over time part of the piece's intent? Is the joy found in thoroughly using a piece of furniture without concern for its pristine condition over time a more fulfilling pursuit than regarding furniture as a precious object? The notion that Gladwell's rocking horse forces the viewer to ponder the relationship between functionality and ornament, makes it an interesting and challenging piece.



-Sherri Apter Wexler

WEXLER GALLERY

Vivian Beer
Lowrider, 2013
Steel, patina and ferrocement (concrete)
48 X 42 X 34 inches

I have always been impressed by Vivian Beer's unique approach to material and design. As seen in Low Rider and Anchored Candy #7, Vivian demonstrates her technical abilities in working in industrial materials such as steel, concrete and automotive paint to create hand-made functional furniture pieces that can transition between indoor or outdoor installation.



Vivian Beer
Anchored Candy no. 7, 2014
Steel and automotive paint
80 X 22 X 37 inches

Beyond her technical abilities, Vivian's work incorporates conceptual ideas that bring context to her use of materials. As a designer, Vivian is strongly influenced by car culture, pop culture and its stereotypical associations to gender. As such, her designs playfully critique these cultural associations by juxtaposing durable, industrial, "masculine" materials with designs that are rich with elegant lines, soft feminine curves, and vibrant colors.



-Melissa Montiel

WEXLER GALLERY

Aswonn/ Susan Woods
Vertical Wave, 2014
Bent poplar plywood
37 X 13 X 84 inches

After meeting the artist at Collective Design Fair, I feel that the artist's personality really comes out in the work. The piece is designed well. It is meant to be functional and the artist considered the weight of the piece when constructing it. "Vertical Wave" is lightweight and can be easily moved around the room. I enjoy the way in which the artist achieved such fluidity in such a typically rigid material.

I chose "Vertical Wave" by Susan Woods because it is light and easy to move around.

-Nick Lenker



WEXLER GALLERY



Gregory Nangle
Ypresian Xenolith, 2014
Cast glass, silicon bronze, silver, tin, steel and epoxy
72 X 19 X 32 inches

What I appreciate about Greg's work is that both light and dark forces are always at play in his hauntingly beautiful creations. Demonstrated by a deft understanding of industrial design and glass blowing, Gregory creates sculpture that is both austere and refined.

In the example of 'Ypresian Xenolith', a custom credenza built of cast glass and bronze, Gregory has aptly named the work to communicate his layered and academic approach in building the object. Ypresian, which in geologic terms is the oldest age or lowest stratigraphic stage of a rock, is the bottom portion of the structure that gives strength and foundation to his object. The cast glass slab that sits atop ypresian is the xenolith, a rock fragment that has become enveloped into a larger rock during development and hardening. The title, 'Ypresian Xenolith' is designed to delightfully surprise and educate the savvy collector- a signature mark of Gregory Nangle's hand at play.

-Joy Deibert

WEXLER GALLERY

Fascinated by the notion of challenging the traditional labels that categorize art, Wexler Gallery exhibits work that can coexist in the worlds of design, fine art, decorative art and craft. By questioning and challenging the boundaries of these fields, we aim to present functional and non-functional work that consistently celebrates innovation. Unified by a commitment to excellent craftsmanship and true dedication to their art, we are proud to showcase some of the world's most esteemed artists working in their areas of pursuit.

The Wexler Gallery is located at 201 North Third Street in the historical district of Old City Philadelphia. We invite you to visit our gallery or explore our website at www.wexlergallery.com. For high resolution images or additional information, please contact joy@wexlergallery.com or call (215) 923-7030.