

HIGHLIGHTING THE SHOWCASES
DESIGN DAYS DUBAI

Launch of UAE's first premier fair dedicated to limited editions

PRODUCED BY SONAL SHAH



POLYHEDRA

Southern Guild, established in 2008 as a platform for South African creatives, exhibited Halidane Martin's low coffee table, Polyhedra. Based on the concept of molecular chains formed from individual units adhering to each other, the single Corian spheres have strong magnets on the sides enabling them to stick together and morph into varied shapes.

Inquiries: Southern Guild, Western Cape
 Website: www.southernguild.co.za

The desert city's maiden venture into design-art from across the globe culminated with the sixth edition of Art Dubai. Twenty two galleries exhibited exclusive collectibles in a specially constructed tent at the foot of the Burj Khalifa, as part of a week enhanced by numerous studio launches, symposiums and creativity related activities throughout the metropolis. Judging by the enthusiasm of the visitors, official sanction and patronage, it is all set to become a major cultural attraction in the region. Our top picks across categories...



MIRAKI

Cords, ropes and strings are the basic materials that 63 year old Christian Astuguevielle has used for his 2012 furniture wrap series. Miraki, a commode made with knotted white, raw cotton, was part of the French designer's work showcased by the international design expert Franziska Kessler's Zurich based gallery.

Inquiries: Franziska Kessler Gallery, Zurich
 Website: www.franziskakessler.com



UP FROM BELOW

The London and Paris based studio showcased some edgy designers from The Netherlands including Marcel Wanders, Lonneke Gordijn and Ralph Nauta of Studio Drift and Sebastian Brajkovic. We loved the organic pod-like light by Australian Charles Trevelyan. Made of jesmonite, marble powder, bamboo fibre, fibre glass and hand blown glass, it was over 200 cm in height and came in a limited edition of eight plus four APs.

Inquiries: Carpenters Workshop Gallery, London
 Website: www.carpentersworkshopgallery.com



SHINING LIGHTS

ENCHANTED FARAWAY TREE

Delicate and appropriately named, the assymetrical tiered chandelier was another eye catching offering from the Southern Guild stable. Crafted by the South African creatives, Adam Hoets and Sian Eliot of Willowlamp, it is a combination of various sized metal bead chains and curved metal branches that hang from one another and ripple as they swirl with the breeze.

Inquiries: Southern Guild, Western Cape
 Website: www.southernguild.co.za



SINGLE SEATERS

ILLUSION ARMCHAIR

Beruit pop up gallery, Carwan commissioned eight international designers to conceptualise objects using traditional Middle Eastern hand-craft in a contemporary fashion. Khalid Shafar, an Emirati who left a job in marketing to pursue his passion fabricated Illusion, a solid wooden frame enmeshed with gold rope.

Inquiries: Carwan Gallery, Beruit
 Website: www.carwangallery.com

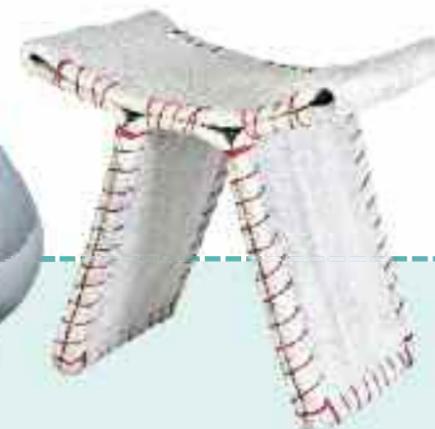


ELLE DECOR LOVES

BLOBULOUS

Shiny and multicoloured, the sinuously shaped low seaters were major attention grabbers. Karim Rashid's creations, the Blobulous chairs are fashioned from fibre glass sprayed over with automotive chrome paint with upholstered foam seats. Only six plus two APs have ever been manufactured.

Inquiries: Galleria Paola e Rossella Colamari, Milan
 Website: www.artnet.com



STITCHING CONCRETE

The contrast in the materials made it really unique. Germany based Florian Schmid constructed a portable stool using 13mm concrete canvas folded over and threaded together with 2mm polyamide string fibre. The fabric impregnated with cement hardens in 24 hours to become waterproof.

Inquiries: Victor Hunt Design Art Dealer Brussels
 Website: www.victor-hunt.com

ELLE DECOR LOVES

PHABLE

The table-cum-light by Dominic Harris, produced by his studio Cinimod, comes in a limited edition of eight plus two artist's proofs (AP). Clear acrylic bars layered on top with phosphorous compounds form the basic cubic structure. The rods are light tunnels for the blue LEDs which interact with the surface phosphor to create an ethereal effect.

Inquiries: Priveekollektie, Heusden
 Website: www.priveekollektie.com



ELLE
DECOR
LOVES



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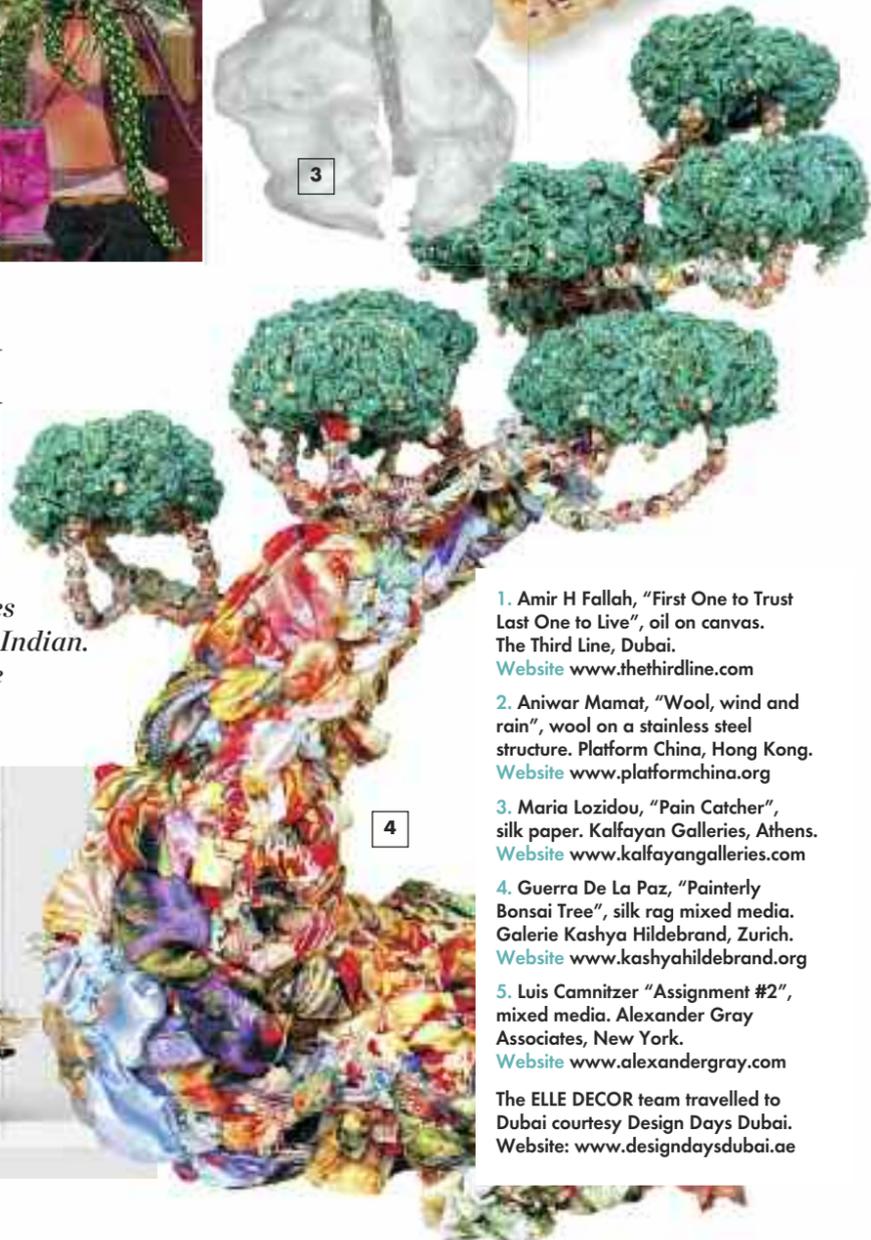


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DESIGN DAYS DUBAI
ART DUBAI

The most sought after exposition in MENASA (Middle East, North Africa, South Asia), the four day event garnered over 25,000 visitors. On view were 500 plus artists across 75 galleries from 32 countries, including four Indian. A selection of what caught our eye



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1. Amir H Fallah, "First One to Trust Last One to Live", oil on canvas. The Third Line, Dubai. Website www.thethirdline.com
2. Aniwar Mamat, "Wool, wind and rain", wool on a stainless steel structure. Platform China, Hong Kong. Website www.platformchina.org
3. Maria Lozidou, "Pain Catcher", silk paper. Kalfayan Galleries, Athens. Website www.kalfayangalleries.com
4. Guerra De La Paz, "Painterly Bonsai Tree", silk rag mixed media. Galerie Kashya Hildebrand, Zurich. Website www.kashyahildebrand.org
5. Luis Camnitzer "Assignment #2", mixed media. Alexander Gray Associates, New York. Website www.alexandergray.com

The ELLE DECOR team travelled to Dubai courtesy Design Days Dubai. Website: www.designdaysdubai.ae