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Studio Atra unveiled Echoes of Tomorrow at the Unique Design X fair during Mexico City Art Week. Photo: Christian Lamb

Need to Know

A Les Lalanne Heir Steals the Show at NYFW, Highlights From Mexico City Art Week, and More News

Here's what you need to know now

By Alia Akkam and Angelika Pokovba February 21, 2025

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From significant business changes to noteworthy product launches, there's always something new happening in the world of design. In this biweekly roundup, AD PRO has everything you need to know.

Design Happenings

In Los Angeles, design fairs recalibrate for wildfire relief



Since January's devastating fires tore through LA, a slew of designers and makers have lent a helping hand, and the support is ongoing. Cosentino, for one, has partnered with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles on their ReBUILD LA campaign, agreeing to match donations up to \$20,000 to help displaced locals with their housing needs. Furniture retailer Blu Dot is also encouraging customers who made purchases from the furniture retailer within the last year to visit their West Hollywood store to replace items they lost at no charge. Meanwhile, on February 20 during Frieze Los Angeles, 10 design destinations—including Apparatus, JF Chen, and Ralph Pucci—will host silent auctions benefiting disaster relief as part of the Hollywood Design Walk. Nearby, The Future Perfect spotlights the modernist furniture and handmade ceramics of Bill Willett and LGS Studio, respectively—industry talents directly affected by the fires.

Mexico City's Art Week democratizes ancient crafts for today





Created in 2013 and now spanning 11 editions, Salon Acme is an art event created by artists for artists that spotlights emerging contemporary creatives. Photo: Alum Galvez

Mexico City Art Week 2025 kicked off in early February with Salón Acme, Trayectos 2025, Material Art Fair, BADA, and Siempre Sí. At Zona Maco, standout booths included Marc Straus, Furiosa, and Tyler Goldflower at Almanaque Fotográfica. AGO Projects commenced the happenings with a dinner takeover of Máximo Bistrot, followed by "Earthling," the studio's installation with Taller Los Tepalcates. Other notable exhibitions included Yann Gerstberger's at OMR, "Shifting Grounds" at LagoAlgo, Teresa Solar Abboud's at Travesía Cuatro, Para A, and Bodega's launch with Ad Minoliti. Design made an impact with Unique Design X's second edition and Atra Form studio's showcase. Separately, collectible design highlights included Omet, Clásicos Mexicanos, and the Woven Kitchen lighting collaboration by Contramar and David Pompa. —Angelika Pokovba

Openings

Workstead crafts a pastel-infused salon for Estelle Colored Glass's debut storefront



Located at The Charleston Place, the new Estelle Colored Glass store becomes a part of the independent, iconic landmark in the heart of Charleston's historic district. Photo: Matthew Williams

Throughout her childhood, Stephanie Summerson Hall relished South Carolina antiquing adventures with her grandmother, developing a soft spot for colored glassware in the process. Those memories ultimately motivated the attorney turned entrepreneur to found Estelle Colored Glass, which, with help from AD PRO Directory firm Workstead, just sprouted its first brick-and-mortar shop at The Charleston Place hotel. Handblown glasses—which can be sampled at the mocktail bar—are on display alongside decanters, vases, and darling cake stands. The pieces' profusion of pastels and jewel tones pop against the store's soft, creamy background, while a stunning tablescape, serpentine sofa, and spherical pendants elicit a sleek salon vibe.

AD PRO Hears...

- ...LA-based home goods brand Lawson-Fenning has expanded east with a showroom designed by AD100 talent Josh Greene. The 4,500-square-foot space on Lafayette Street in New York features exclusive pieces from artisans Devin Wilde, Canoa, James Cherry, and more.
- ...Ward + Gray is giving us two more reasons to travel this season: The AD PRO Directory firm founded by Soho House alums is set to unveil interiors for Hotel Perle in New Orleans and The Bellevue in Philadelphia.
- ...New York's Italian design row—the stretch of Madison Avenue between 29th and 33rd Streets—continues to expand, as Boffi/DePadova has unveiled a three-story showroom elegantly styled with the label's modern furniture, lighting, and partition systems.

Exhibitions

In West Palm Beach, a powerhouse duo curates bicoastal art and design





The exhibition takes place at the historic Norton House and its surrounding gardens; it's the former residence of sculptor Ann Weaver Norton (1905–1982). Photo: Tim Lenz

AD100 designer Robert Stilin and gallerist Sarah Gavlak are longtime friends, so the duo's transformation of West Palm Beach's historic Norton House was a deeply personal project. For "Living with Art and Design" (on view through March 16), Stilin layered rooms with furniture, lighting, and accessories culled from nearly a dozen top New York galleries and designers like The Campana Brothers, Ashley Hicks, and Max Lamb, effortlessly mingle with contemporary paintings, sculptures, and installations from Gavlak's local and LA galleries, reinforcing the relationship between fine art and high-end functional design.

AD PRO Hears...

...Cambridge, Massachusetts, has gained a new creation. American artist Sanford Biggers's *Madrigal* sculpture—an origami-shaped number covered in quilting patterns—is officially standing tall outside the SANAA-designed MIT music hall.

Product

Forget cake-Cressida Bell celebrates with stunning silk scarves



The Filigree Red Flat design by Cressida Bell Courtesy of Cressida Bell

Upon graduating from the Royal College of Art, Cressida Bell continued the family tradition (her grandmother was Bloomsbury Group founding member Vanessa Bell) and established her London studio in 1984. In the decades since, she has designed jubilant interiors and patterns for everything from textiles to lampshades to greeting cards. To commemorate the studio's 40-year milestone, Bell has unveiled an array of limited-edition silk scarves that pull from her archive of hand-painted artworks. Toiles de Jouy-reminiscent borders, rustic botanicals that recall William Morris, and dramatic tassels are just a few of the starring motifs that capture the American Southwest and formal Italian gardens in tandem.

Stone source Anastasio Home unveils debut furniture capsule

In Canton, Connecticut, Anastasio Home's showroom teems with decorative trays, vases, and decor—all hewn from beautifully veined, richly tonal stone. As of this week, the label, which partners with a stone atelier in Rajasthan, India, has unveiled its inaugural furniture designs with the fluidly-formed Single Origin collection. The monolithic pieces include an emerald-hued throne and a stacked cherry-gold coffee table with eyecatching veining. The design showroom is keen on metal, too, as seen in the likes of an undulating aluminum side table and patinaed brass lamp.



The Ostavia Cida Table in Test from the new

Les Lalanne heir Julie Hamisky's bronze works shine at New York Fashion Week



Ulla Johnson's show was held in New York City's Hudson Square neighborhood. Courtesy of Ulla Johnson



The accompanying jewelry collection was conceptualized and fabricated by Julie Hamisky. Photo: Charlie Rubin

At Ulla Johnson's New York Fashion Week showing last week, a shimmering flower bloomed from a metallic runway. French sculptor Julie Hamisky's nearly eight-foot-high bronze poppy was complemented on the runway with 12 pieces of wearable art, each crafted using the laborious electroplating technique Hamisky learned from her grandmother Claude Lalanne. Designed exclusively for the seasonal collection, these works of jewelry, ranging from ethereal lily cuffs to chunky necklaces that reinterpret eremurus, mimic Johnson's gracefully draped fabrics and immortalize the delicate details of her favorite flowers.

AD PRO Hears

...Mah-jongg lovers, rejoice! For their Spring/Summer 2025 collection, Roche Bobois has asked designer Kenzo Takada to once again transform the iconic sofa with tropical jacquards and burnt-hued velvets.

...Color of the Year coverage may be wrapped for 2025, but Dunn-Edwards is placing bigger bets: The paint company has declared Viridian Odyssey—a deep, earthen turquoise—as the Color of the *Century*. Any challengers?

Project

With Twin Tails, AvroKO puts a Southeast Asian lens on the swank New York lounge



Twin Tails is located at 10 Columbus Circle on the 3rd floor. Photo: Christian Harder



The restaurant comes from the team behind Zou Zou's and Bad Roman and other NYC hot spots. Photo: Christian

The resurgence of New York golden age interiors—those, as defined by the "Bemelmans Effect", as being at once elegantly upscale, endearingly amusing, and transportive—continues. Twin Tails, the city's latest example by AvroKO, homes in on the neo-expressionist reign on downtown supper clubs of the '80s in particular. Informed by chef/partner Craig Koketsu's culinary concept of Thai and Vietnamese mainstays enhanced with Cambodian and Laos cues, the designers crafted a dynamic palette of rich and sultry grand gestures fine-tuned with earthen materials. Set in a warming glow courtesy of rosy mirrored walls and amber glass lighting, the two-level dining room is wrapped in turmeric yellow velvet banquettes, while cane-backed green leather dining chairs pull up to rosewood tables. Add the Columbus Circle spot's expansive Central Park views and the menu's green curry escargot, lemongrass ribs, and King Crab, and it's an evening of cosmopolitan decadence.

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Alongside nine new colors, the storied brand is also set to reintroduce three archival favorites later this month

v Tim Nelson

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