

## R & Company Announces Representation of Lebanon-Based Designers Sayar & Garibeh, With the Duo's First New York Solo Show to Open at the Tribeca Gallery

## Sayar & Garibeh: Broomlithic On View January 12 – April 19, 2024

**New York**—R & Company recently announced its representation of Stephanie Sayar and Charbel Garibeh, the Lebanon-based designers known as Sayar & Garibeh. In recent years, the duo has been increasingly recognized for their experimental designs that blend traditional craft techniques with contemporary innovation and wit. R & Company previously presented works by Sayar & Garibeh at Design Miami and will mark their formal collaboration with a solo show of new works by the designers opening January 12, 2024. Titled *Broomlithic*, the exhibition will feature a selection of furniture and design objects that reflect the designers' distinctive stone carving and pay tribute to the simple, functional broom. *Broomlithic* marks Sayar & Garibeh's first solo exhibition in New York and will remain on view at R & Company's 64 White Street location through April 19, 2024.

"Being both designers and makers, we perceive the immense potential within each material we encounter. We are constantly seeking ways to transform and manipulate, breathing new life into them and presenting them in unique and unconventional ways. Ultimately, we relish the opportunity to rebel against traditional materials and techniques, embracing the chance to challenge norms and bring forth innovative expressions of creativity." — Sayar & Garibeh



Sayar & Garibeh, "Chibroom" Bench, 2023, terracotta, stone, raffia. Photography by Carl Halal, courtesy R & Company.

interior architecture at the Lebanese University. Their playful works are often inspired by Lebanese life and culture, whether in color, form, or material or the objects' functions. They seamlessly integrate decades- and centuries-old craftsmanship with new, experimental perspectives and techniques developed through their collaborative approach. Their work has been recognized at numerous international presentations: in 2020, Architectural Digest Middle East selected

Sayar and Garibeh formed their namesake studio in Beirut in 2015, just three years after they completed their degrees in

them for its emerging talent prize. They are also currently working on a collaboration with Dolce & Gabbana for the D&G Casa collection.

"Lebanon, and Lebanese life, have always been a profound source of inspiration in our creative journey. We never attempt to represent Lebanon in a straightforward or conventional manner; rather, our aim is to reveal what remains unseen in this captivating country. Our vision encompasses the richness, diversity, and contrasts that are abundant here, with a special focus on the actions and experiences of everyday life." — Sayar & Garibeh

*Broomlithic* brings together two ideas of interest for Sayar & Garibeh: the Lithic stage in human development, which saw an increase in the creation and use of stone tools to establish a more settled and less nomadic lifestyle, and the broom, a humble but effective object that in many cultures also represents the experience of renewal. The works featured in the exhibition unite references to these seemingly disparate ideas to new, unexpected results. Blocks of white, Lebanese stone are transformed into softly formed tables, benches, chairs, and other objects with gentle curves and textured surfaces balanced by the weight of the stone. The works are further accented by fiber components that suggest the bristles of the broom, adding a compelling layer of whimsy and a sense of domesticity. Sayer & Garibeh's approach highlights the power and beauty of stonework, while also communicating a light, optimistic, and humorous spirit.

"The concept of the lithic stage finds an unexpected parallel in the symbolism of the broomstick. For us, both ideas highlight the human capacity for adaptation. They are part of the common thread of human resilience, and our pursuit of a better future through the utilization of tools. The works featured in *Broomlithic* capture the optimistic state of mind that we are experiencing and that we want to share with others through these objects." — Sayar & Garibeh

"We are excited to formalize our collaborations with Stephanie and Charbel and to bring them into our program, which has always championed emerging designers. The upcoming exhibition is an opportunity to formally introduce New York and US audiences to their distinct and inventive studio practice, which is guided by a deep engagement with craft techniques and a desire to experiment and explore new aesthetic and conceptual possibilities in design. Their work communicates a joyfulness and a love of life and culture, and we are very much looking forward to expanding awareness of their vision and work." — Zesty Meyers and Evan Snyderman, R & Company's Founders and Principals.

## About R & Company

For over 20 years, R & Company has championed collectible design, advancing the contemporary marketplace and actively growing a global collector base and clientele. Its founders, Zesty Meyers and Evan Snyderman, are widely recognized for identifying rising talent, deepening scholarship about collectible design, and developing new avenues for growth in the industry. R & Company maintains two dynamic spaces in New York: its expansive, inaugural space at 82 Franklin Street features a rotating display of interior environments highlighting gallery designers, while 64 White Street offers an active roster of solo and group exhibitions and includes a Library and Archive of more than 4,000 books, journals, and other materials. The gallery is committed to nurturing and sustaining the markets and careers of both emerging and established designers, as well as to maintaining and expanding commercial and academic interest in historic design. Its roster of international designers includes Wendell Castle, Rogan Gregory, the Estate of Greta Grossman, Serban Ionescu, Hun-Chung Lee, Joyce Lin, Roberto Lugo, Jolie Ngo, Katie Stout, Johnny Swing, Studio Job, Joaquim Tenreiro, and Jeff Zimmerman, among many others. With its vision, passion, and expertise, R & Company serves as a critical platform for experiencing 20th and 21st-century objects and discovering innovative, rare, and significant design.

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