

R & Company Announces Spring Exhibitions, Featuring A Dynamic Range of Fully Designed Living Spaces

Among the Exhibitions are Solo Presentations of Work by Rogan Gregory and Ashley Hicks

And a Group Exhibition with Objects by Wendell Castle, Jose Zanine Caldas, Rogan Gregory, and Joaquim Tenreiro

On View April 25 through August 9, 2024



Group Image with Wendell Castle, Sculptural Door, 1980; *Library Steps*, 1977. Photography by Logan Jackson, courtesy R & Company.

New York, NY—R & Company is pleased to announce its slate of spring exhibitions, including solo shows of new works by acclaimed makers Rogan Gregory and Ashley Hicks and a significant group presentation focused on artistic experimentations with doors and screens as often overlooked but essential design elements. The gallery has for many years presented art and design in arrangements evocative of living spaces, supporting audiences in imagining how they could live with the works on view and creating exciting formal and conceptual juxtapositions between objects and makers. The spring exhibitions build on this long-standing tradition, with each show offering distinct articulations of fully designed interior spaces. The exhibitions feature historical masterworks by such design legends as Wendell Castle, Jose Zanine Caldas, and Joaquim Tenreiro as well as new objects that reflect the latest aesthetic and technical innovations. Together, the spring exhibitions provide visitors with a captivating expression of the possibilities of collectible design to the creation and experience of the home.

Four Rooms, Rogan Gregory: Elysian Dream, and Ashley Hicks: The Stones of New York will be on view at R & Company's 64 White Street location from April 25 through August 9, 2024. Additional details about each exhibition follow below.

Four Rooms

The exhibition, *Four Rooms*, invites visitors to experience four distinct living environments, each anchored by a singular door that is both a portal into the space and an art object in its own right. Doors are often overlooked design elements and yet they are also often the first aesthetic signifier one encounters and offer unique opportunities to shape the flow, tone, and feel of a room. Many designers have experimented with the form and decorative design of doors, panels, and screens. *Four Rooms* offers a look at four compelling historical and contemporary examples by designers **Wendell Castle**, **Jose Zanine Caldas**, **Rogan Gregory**, and **Joaquim Tenreiro**.



Group Image with Joaquim Tenreiro, Bar, c. 1960; and Thomas Nozkowski, *Untitled (9-1)*, 2011, and *Untitled (9-47)*, 2014. Photography by Logan Jackson, courtesy R & Company. Artwork courtesy of Pace Gallery.

The exhibition opens with Wendell Castle's stunning carved Australian Lacewood door panels, produced around 1980 as a commission for the New York loft of gallerist Alexander Milliken. Castle considered the panels part of his Dr. Caligari series, which was inspired by Herman Warm's set designs for the classic 1920 horror film *The Cabinet of Dr*. *Caligari*. The series also captures Castle's distinct experimentations with form and surface texture as reflected in the fine carving and patterning of the panels. Another historical example in the

exhibition is **Joaquim Tenreiro**'s pair of doors made in Rosewood, with diamond-shaped cutouts, inset with amber glass. Also produced as a commission, in 1969, for a home in São Paulo, the doors capture Tenreiro's singular vision and astounding craftsmanship. The exhibition also includes a hand-carved sculptural door from a felled tree by **Jose Zanine Caldas** that captures the designer's commitment to environmental responsibility and presaged broader dialogues about sustainability, and a futuristic screen in gypsum, wood, and bronze by **Rogan Gregory**, who is the subject of a concurrent solo exhibition at R & Company.

Defined by these intricate doors, the spaces in the exhibition feature a range of furniture pieces and design objects by the four designers, providing insight into their individual practices as well as the dynamic visual and conceptual connections between them. The exhibition also includes artworks by **Matta**, **Thomas Nozkowski**, and **Richard Pousette-Dart**, presented through a collaboration with Pace Gallery, that further complement and complete the living environments, establishing a dialogue between the fine art and design works.

Rogan Gregory: Elysian Dream

In his fourth solo exhibition with R & Company, designer, artist, and maker Rogan Gregory offers his vision for two complete living spaces: a bedroom and living room. Gregory has come to be recognized for

his anthropomorphic and evocative design works that blur the boundaries between formal and functional experimentation. Working across a wide range of materials, from wood, to bronze, to textiles, Gregory's boundless imagination has resulted in one-of-kind works that reflect his distinct vision for a more environmentally and socially conscious world. In recent years, Gregory has become increasingly interested in presenting fully designed spaces, from wall and floor coverings to primary furniture pieces to design objects that complete the mood of the room.

His unique sense of atmosphere comes to life in his bedroom presentation, which emphasizes dramatic dark hues, from the black walls to the brown and black textured bed frame, rug, and bed covering, and to the dark wood and bronze tables. The few reflective and white accents further accentuate the power of the dark colors and materials to envelop you in a warm, comfortable, and secluded space—a true respite from the digitally-mediated buzz of our daily lives. The bedroom also includes Gregory's first presentation of textiles, including the rug and bed covering. This expansion of his material engagement both dovetails and extends his prior work in fashion design and enhances his vision to create a sense of comfort within his design spaces.

The bedroom opens into a living room with a greater contrast of light and dark, including taupe-hued shearling baguette sofas and rug, bronze coffee table, and white gypsum illuminated sculptures and wallworks set within a black painted room. Here, the space evokes a sense of open airiness, while maintaining an overarching feel of quiet and comfort. Together, the furniture and objects in both spaces provide a captivating view of how a personal aesthetic and interest in atmosphere can be achieved through attention to fine details and the relationships between all aspects of the environment.

Ashley Hicks: The Stones of New York

British architect and interior designer Ashley Hicks returns to R & Company with his second solo exhibition, *The Stones of New York*. Over the course of his illustrious and multifaceted career, Hicks has designed complete interiors and produced lines of custom, handcrafted fabrics, carpets, furniture, and objects. His work is often characterized by a passion and distinct eye for colors, patterns, and textures, and the ways that they can be layered to singular effect. Hicks is frequently inspired by design history and traditions, which he transforms into contemporary forms.

For *The Stones of New York*, Hicks presents a unique selection of furniture pieces created especially for the show that capture his first forays into lighting and working in glass mosaic. At the heart of the presentation is *Lion*, a dining table with legs inspired by an ancient Greek sculpture Hicks saw at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and a tabletop executed in glass mosaic tesserae in a pattern designed by Hicks and produced in collaboration with Bisazza of Italy. The table is accompanied by dining chairs in handmade faux-bronze resin and steel and covered in Hicks's *Scribble* printed linen.

Additional works in the exhibition include a chandelier crafted from resin-shaped "gemstones" that throw light onto to the ceiling; a pair of *Totem* standing lamps and smaller light pendants that also use resin forms to engage with light; and a *Manhattan* wardrobe, with panels that feature a hand-painted scene of the city at night, set in the 1930s, among other works that complete the dynamic space.

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 10,000 books, photographs, drawings, 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, Greta Magnusson Grossman, Serban Ionescu, Hun-Chung Lee, Joyce Lin, Roberto Lugo, Richard Marquis, 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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