



R & Company to Feature Acclaimed Designers and Rising Talents at Design Miami

**Presentation to Showcase Forward-Thinking, Emerging Designers,
Including Serban Ionescu, Joyce Lin, Luam Melake, Jolie Ngo, Sayar & Garibeh,
And Norman Teague**

**Highlights Also Include Selections from Studio Job's *Car Crash Series*,
A Seminal 1962 Chest by Wendell Castle, Presented with Historic Materials on Its Significance,
and Major Works by Rogan Gregory, Joaquim Tenreiro, and Jeff Zimmerman, Among Others**

New York, NY – November 18, 2021 – Over the course of more than two decades, R & Company has supported a wide range of emerging talent as an essential aspect of its vision and program. With its presentation at the 2021 edition of Design Miami, opening on November 30, the gallery is spotlighting the distinct work of a group of rising talents, whose conceptual and technical approaches are shaping the future of design and exciting a broad range of audiences. Several of these designers recently joined R & Company's dynamic and growing roster, including **Serban Ionescu, Joyce Lin, and Jolie Ngo**, while others have been featured in prior R & Company exhibitions and projects, including **Luam Melake, Sayar & Garibeh, and Norman Teague**.

Among the works featured as part of this portion of R & Company's presentation is Lin's *1-800-GET-PINK* chair (2021), which appears to be shedding its sleek silver skin to reveal its pink interior and is part of Lin's experimentation with outer surfaces and interior structures. Other chairs include Melake's *Supportive Chair* (2021), which encapsulates her ongoing interest in exploring functional objects as psychologically charged sites that motivate and support human connection, and Teague's *Africana Rocking Chair* (2020) made from solid basswood and a leather seat by Yohance Lacour, which incorporates West African practices and rituals, highlighting Teague's mission to include Black and Brown perspectives within American design. Also included are a selection of small-scale ceramic objects by Ngo made through her distinct rapid prototyping and 3-D printing techniques; terracotta pieces by the Beirut-based duo Sayar & Garibeh that capture their experimental approach to traditional Lebanese media; and boldly colored and playful cabinets by Ionescu that blur the boundaries between the sculptural and functional.

"R has always been committed to nurturing emerging designers, whose voices and innovations shift the boundaries and possibilities of design and continue to evolve our field in new directions. We are particularly excited by the incredible range of the works we are presenting, which are distinct in aesthetic, concept, technique, and broader perspective about what design can do and evoke from those who experience it," said Evan Snyderman, Principal at R & Company. "We are looking forward to engaging audiences in Miami with these designers and, and to continuing to bring their works to the public and to the market as we consider the vitality and trajectory of design well into the future."



R & Company's Design Miami presentation also includes major works and collections by established designers, whose practices have evolved and captivated collectors through time. Among these highlights is a collection of works from **Studio Job**'s *Car Crash* series, which viscerally encapsulates humanity's fascination with moments of tragedy. R & Company, which began representing Studio Job earlier this year, will feature the bronze side table inspired by James Dean's car crash. The table, which juxtaposes the emotional impact of a disaster with the physicality of rich materials, will be presented with its conceptual drawing as well as drawings of other famous crashes, including those of Jackson Pollock, Grace Kelly, and Ayrton Senna. The drawings are available for purchase as artworks in their own right, and collectors will also be able to commission Studio Job to create the three-dimensional versions. The presentation of Studio Job at Design Miami serves as a focused preview into R & Company's planned solo presentation of the designer's work in New York in fall 2022.

Studio Job's singularly contemporary objects also create a compelling dialogue with R & Company's installation of **Wendell Castle**'s 1962 Chest of Drawers, a seminal masterpiece that captures Castle's innate ability to merge the sensibilities of both sculpture and furniture into a new, cohesive whole. The work sheds the strictures of mid-century design to embrace organic forms, with tentacle-like arms becoming the legs and handles of an otherwise traditional storage unit. The Chest has an illustrious history, having been acquired by the Museum of Contemporary Crafts in New York in 1966 and subsequently shown in major exhibitions of Castle's work at the Detroit Institute of Arts (1989) and The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum (2012). Most recently, it was included in *Crafting America* (2021) at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, with exhibition curators Glenn Adamson and Jen Padgett describe it as "pitched right at the cutting edge between function, form, and pure sculpture."

Also included is a wide selection of works by **Rogan Gregory**, including standing and hung illuminated sculptures, a *Gorilla* lounge chair and ottoman in black shearling, a group of sculptural mirrors and objects in bronze, and other furnishings. The featured works will be presented in a distinguishing, black environment and reflect Gregory's life-long interest in abstract forms, evolutionary and biological systems, and the impact of humans on the natural world. The installation builds on the incredible success of the gallery's presentation of Gregory's work at the 2019 edition of Design Miami, enhancing further collector interest in and understanding of his practice.

R & Company will also feature works by **Katie Stout** and **Jeff Zimmerman**, both of whom will be the subjects of solo exhibitions at the gallery in January 2022; by **Richard Marquis**, whose glassworks are currently on view at the gallery; and by **Joaquim Tenreiro** (1906-1992), who is recognized as the pioneer of modernist Brazilian furniture making.

"Our presentation at Design Miami this year is really exciting because it captures conversations through time. From designers who broke boundaries in their time, like Castle and Tenreiro, to those who picked up those innovations and exploded the possibilities of design even further, through different modes of technologies and daring aesthetic choices," said Zesty Meyers, Principal at R & Company. "It is captivating to experience these through-lines and imagine, and support, where the next generation is



going to go and what they will create. This presentation speaks so much to R’s vision for both presenting historic and contemporary work, and it is the perfect return to Design Miami for us. It’s also so gratifying to feature designers with whom we have long-standing relationships, like Rogan Gregory and Jeff Zimmerman, as well as those with whom we have established new collaborations like Studio Job.”

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