



**R & COMPANY TO PRESENT SOLO EXHIBITION OF WORKS
BY CONTEMPORARY BRAZILIAN DESIGNER ZANINI DE ZANINE IN FEBRUARY 2022**

**New Works Capture Brazilian Design Traditions,
While Expanding Aesthetic and Conceptual Approaches**

New York, NY—January 6, 2021—On the twentieth anniversary of his practice, R & Company will present its first exhibition of works by renowned Brazilian designer, Zanini de Zanine. Opening on February 3, 2022, the exhibition will feature a selection of sensuous, monumental benches, chairs, stools, and other objects made from felled trees, repurposed wood, and reclaimed materials. Zanine’s works capture a connection between the natural and the manmade, as he amplifies organic lines and forms through skilled craftsmanship and a conceptual vision. Zanine’s practice embraces and extends certain traditions of Brazilian modern design grounded in a spiritual and physical relationship with nature, an awareness and response to the environmental impact on the country’s lush landscapes, and a commitment to engaging with sustainable materials. The exhibition will remain on view through April 22, 2022, at the gallery’s 64 White Street location.



Selection of work by Zanini de Zanine. Photograph by Joe Kramm, Courtesy R & Company.

The exhibition builds on R & Company’s long-standing commitment to the study and presentation of Brazilian design, with which the gallery’s co-founders Zesty Meyers and Evan Snyderman first became engaged in the late 1990s. Over the course of two decades, R & Company has significantly expanded scholarship and international market interest in Brazilian design through publications and exhibitions, including numerous shows featuring Zanine’s father, the renowned architect and designer José Zanine Caldas. Zanine’s practice builds on his father’s legacy—in instances using salvaged materials from demolished homes by Caldas—while also carving a new trajectory for himself that embraces ceramics, woven textiles, and other, sometimes unexpected, materials, and experiments with more streamlined and linear aesthetic articulations.

“We are excited to present new work by Zanini de Zanine as an important opportunity to continue the dialogue about the evolution of Brazilian design. Zanini’s work captures the distinct traditions of Mid-Century Brazilian design, while also experimenting with contemporary techniques that speak to our



current generation of creators and collectors,” said Evan Snyderman, Principal at R & Company. “His individual works are incredibly rich in detail and even more varied when experienced together. The upcoming exhibition will offer audiences a strong taste of the complexity and dynamism of his practice.”



Zanini de Zanine, Lounge Chair and Stool in ipê wood, 2020.
Photograph by Joe Kramm, Courtesy R & Company.

The works in this show demonstrate Zanine’s insightful and inspired aesthetic. Two three-legged benches, each made with legs in *ipê* wood salvaged from demolished Caldas-designed homes and distinctly topped with *maçaranduba* or *piquiá* wood, capture the range and dexterity of Zanine’s approach. Also included in the exhibition are several lounge chairs and stools that are more geometric in shape. These angular designs recall classic Mid-Century Modern forms, while their polished finish suggests solidity, monumentality, and kinship between materials. One of the lounge chairs, made from sustainably sourced *Piquiá* wood and a highlight of the show, conveys the sensation of being cradled within a large tree trunk, as

the sitting space is carved out from within the tree, exposing the natural beauty of its rings.

Two wall hangings are also included in the exhibition. Woven from cane of *tucum* palm trees, the textiles mirror the organic and geometric forms of Zanine’s furniture but offer a new articulation of the designer’s vision. This is also true of Zanine’s featured ceramic vessel, which, with its large scale, parallels the solidity and shape of some of his wooden stools and chairs, but offers a different tactility and aesthetic experience.

“For us, bringing this terrific selection of Zanini’s unique sculptural pieces to New York audiences is an important milestone,” said Zesty Meyers, Principal at R & Company. “The historic trajectory of design is as important to the gallery’s work as is our focus on contemporary designers. Exhibiting Zanini bridges these two interests, presenting new works by a designer who is himself connected to the history of modern design and, at the same time, is creating new pathways and innovations for the future. We know viewers will respond enthusiastically to Zanini’s work, and we look forward to enhancing the market and audience for his practice.”

More About Zanini de Zanine

Zanini de Zanine was born in Rio de Janeiro in 1978, and learned from an early age, through his father, to respect natural materials and natural forms. He subsequently trained with designer Sergio Rodrigues, with



whom he first collaborated to produce furniture. After graduating from the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro in 2002 with a degree in Design, Zanine began charting his own path. Since then, he has produced furniture and other design objects using an array of materials, from reclaimed or sustainably sourced wood to plastic, metal and other discarded consumer products. His work has been exhibited at prestigious institutions, including the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Museum of Arts and Design.

The exhibition of works by Zanini de Zanine at R & Company will open concurrently with solo presentations of works by Katie Stout and Jeff Zimmerman.

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For more information, please contact:

Alina E. Sumajin

Co-founder and Principal

PAVE Communications & Consulting

alina@paveconsult.com / 646-369-2050