

how to spend it

Amma Studio's strikingly beautiful furniture

Bespoke designs bedecked with off-beat materials, from Himalayan sea salt to coffee grounds



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“Almost geode-like, but with strong geometric lines,” says Samuel Amoia, co-founder of Amma Studio, as he describes his firm’s strikingly beautiful drum stools, cylindrical tables and wall panels. Amoia, together with co-founder Fernando Mastrangelo, launched Amma Studio eight months ago, and the pair’s cool designs have already garnered a global following from Silicon Valley and Miami to the UK and Paris.

Stella McCartney was one of its earliest fans – she saw Amma’s white-salt table with a pale-blue top, and immediately commissioned a string of consoles and custom-coloured cement floor panels for her Los Angeles boutique and one of her homes. The company’s other recent projects include an installation of 40 drums for Soho House in Berlin; store interiors for Jenna Lyons at J Crew’s Williamsburg outpost; and a spectacular booth for De Lorenzo Gallery at last week’s The Salon: Art + Design fair in New York.

Amoia is also the owner of his eponymous interior-design firm, while Mastrangelo is a trained sculptor, which makes for a creatively curious pairing. Natural – if sometimes unexpected – materials are a signature of their work. These include coffee grounds, pink and grey Himalayan sea salt (second picture), black sand, metal pyrite and sprinkles, to name but a few, which are all cast with concrete. Clients can request a particular material as well as specify the cement colour, with neutral tones among the most sought-after, though monochrome (third picture), mint green, greige, salmon and copper are especially popular.

“Each piece or installation is pared down on the exterior, but soft and organic within, which speaks to our love of texture and duality,” says Amoia.

While most requests are for its drum stools (from \$4,600), side tables and consoles (\$8,000-\$9,000, first picture) and amorphous coffee tables (\$15,000-\$25,000, fourth picture), Amma Studio has also made a name in bespoke mirrors (\$15,000-\$32,000) bedecked with diamond dust, glass crystals and assorted metals. Most commissions take around eight weeks, with larger, more unusual ones – such as entire walls cast in sand or pyrite (price on request) – taking up to six months.

“Ideally our pieces appeal to people who like the work of Isamu Noguchi, but also favour a masculine aesthetic,” says Amoia. “But most of all, we just love to get as creative as possible with our clients.”

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