

METROPOLIS 2006 ICFF DIRECTORY



ICFF
INTERNATIONAL
CONTEMPORARY
FURNITURE FAIR

International Contemporary Furniture Fair
May 20-23, 2006
Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, New York
Produced and managed by George Little Management LLC
Sponsored by Metropolis magazine

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ICFF OBSERVED

NEWS FROM AROUND THE FAIR



Industrial Development

Young and emerging designers can be found throughout the ICFF, but there will be a particularly high concentration in the booth of the New York chapter of the Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSAs), which is exhibiting at the ICFF for the first time this year. "We saw this as a way to help our younger members who can't afford a huge space at the ICFF," says Debera Johnson, chair of the IDSA New York. The exhibitors, who are mostly in their 20s, will be showing furniture—such as the Catch chair (above, left), by Mesve Vardar, and the Piasa room divider by Emiliano Goday (above, right)—along with some lighting and accessories. "It's a real eclectic mix," Johnson says, "but the quality of the work is exceptional."

Austrian Outlook

Austrian designer, architect, artist, and theorist Friedrich Kiesler had little use for Louis Sullivan's famous dictum "Form follows function." Writing in 1949 Kiesler responded, "Form does not follow function. Function follows vision. Vision follows reality." At this year's ICFF, Vienna-based manufacturer Wittmann celebrates Kiesler's idiosyncratic vision by presenting reeditions of his "pseudo-functional" furniture, including the Cor-realistic Rocker (right). Wittmann is but one of seven companies participating in the Austrian Trade Commission's inaugural exhibition at the ICFF; other products on display range from natural-wood office furniture by Team 7 to handmade designer rugs by Geba and leather-and-feather curtains by Ronin 27. Whether these forms follow function, vision, reality, or something else entirely is your call.

