

Creative Minds



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Emma Donnersberg. The designer's bronze Penzai table V and Cloud chair I.

FURNITURE DESIGN **EMMA DONNERSBERG**

Emma Donnersberg's success story can be described as having been written in the stars. In her twenties, she was looking for a career path when an astrologer reading her chart suggested she had a talent for interior design. "Honestly, she was right—I adore it," laughs Donnersberg, who got a master's degree from Parsons in Manhattan and found her niche creating breathtaking interiors in New York, Paris, London, and beyond. "I could not live without doing design."

BREAKOUT MOMENT: Even while building her interiors practice, Donnersberg always had an idea for constructing mushroom-shaped tables. She introduced her creations in 2019, debuting the pieces at PAD with Galerie Gosserez and Design Miami/ with Maison Gerard, which carries the woodland form—rendered in bronze or ceramic—that today populates interiors by leading firms such as Rodolphe Parente, Ingrao, and Fox-Nahem.

COLLABORATING WITH ARTISANS: Although she's mounting a solo show at Studiotwentysseven later this year and launching a new collection, Donnersberg equally enjoys working in tandem with other artisans such as Abel Cárcamo, with whom she debuted Penzai, sinuous bonsai-inspired lamps and tables at Les Ateliers Courbet, and Michel Amar, her collaborator on the monolithic Canyon tables. "It opens your mind, and it's nice to get out of your comfort zone," she says of the joint efforts. "It's a dialogue between two artists." edonnersberg.com —J.S.



"First we are analysts, then we are engineers, then we become artists, and finally the architects of the landscape" ENZO ENEA



LANDSCAPE DESIGN **ENZO ENEA**

While Enzo Enea is one of the most prolific landscape designers working today, with customary Swiss stealth, he seems to fly under the radar. With offices in Zurich, Milan, Miami, and New York, his company currently has projects far and wide, from the Four Seasons in Cartagena, Colombia, to the Peninsula Hotel in Istanbul and the twisting towers by Bjarke Ingels on the High Line in New York. "Every place has a different geology, rainfall, sunshine," he says. "We measure everything, so first we are analysts, then we are engineers, then we become artists, and finally the architects of the landscape."

It's at home in Rapperswil-Jona, near Zurich, that Enea's philosophy shines most brightly. Here, in 2010, he opened his Tree Museum, an incredible arboreal collection that covers an 18.5-acre site. Among the many specimens flourishing are ancient examples that he saved from construction sites, including a Japanese maple dating from 1895 and a horse chestnut from 1902, as well as a significant number of sculptures, not least Sylvie Fleury's exquisite metallic mushrooms.

PHILOSOPHY: "Beauty will come if you follow nature itself," he says. "I plant like the rainforest, in gradual layers, and that in itself brings sustainability."

UP NEXT: He is focused on the gardens at the storied Art Deco Raleigh hotel in Miami, conserving its famously curvaceous pool while adding three more. enea.ch

—Caroline Roux



Projects by Enzo Enea (left, from top): A private garden in Kea, Greece, and Carré Belge in Cologne, Germany.

