A Panorama of Design

Some highlights of Milan Design Week.

An Homage to History



The Tefnut low table, from the Temenos Collection by Studiopepe. Flavio Pescatori

By Pilar Viladas

Galerie Philia, which deals in contemporary design and art, is presenting the first limited-edition works by Studiopepe, the Milan design agency founded by Arianna Lelli Mami and Chiara Di Pinto. Studiopepe's collection, Temenos, will be installed in a former Necchi sewing machine factory in the Baranzate district outside Milan. The designers collaborated with the Luigi Pigorini National Museum of Prehistory and Ethnography in Rome on research into the ways that the function or purpose of an object can be changed by the symbolism attached to it.

Among the pieces on display will be thronelike, sculptural chairs in charred wood; tubular concrete lights; and a low table (above), made of tiered slabs of onyx, on what the designers call two "triangular prisms" of charred wood. Ms. Lelli Mami and Ms. Di Pinto said in a statement that they "wanted to create an alphabet with our works" and acknowledge their admiration for 20th-century art and design masters like Constantin Brancusi, Isamu Noguchi and Le Corbusier. On view through June 12 at Baranzate Ateliers, Via Milano 251, Baranzate. galerie-philia.com