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THE REPORT

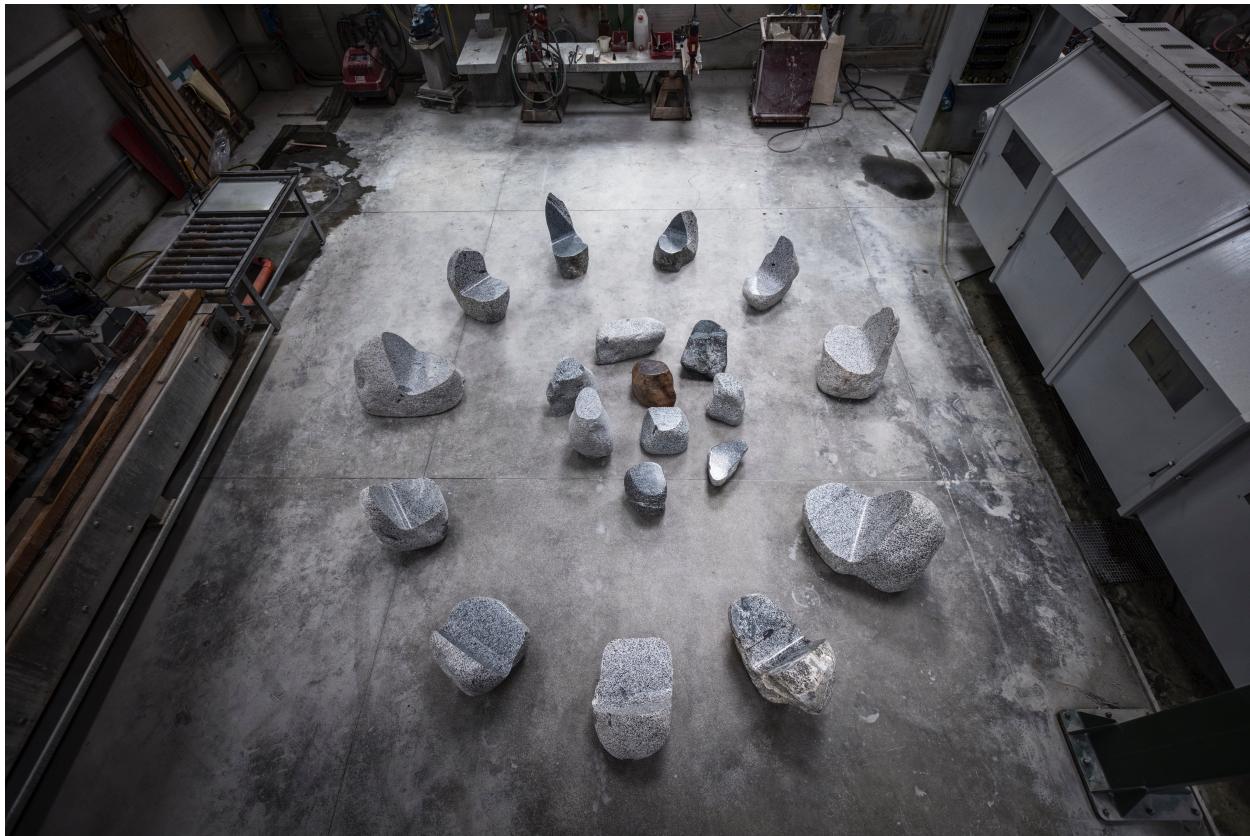
## Max Lamb Debuts a New Take on Stone at Salon 94 Design

The London designer was approached by a quarry to create his high-design chairs

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Max Lamb's new chairs, on display at New York's Salon 94.

Photo: Andrea Sottana

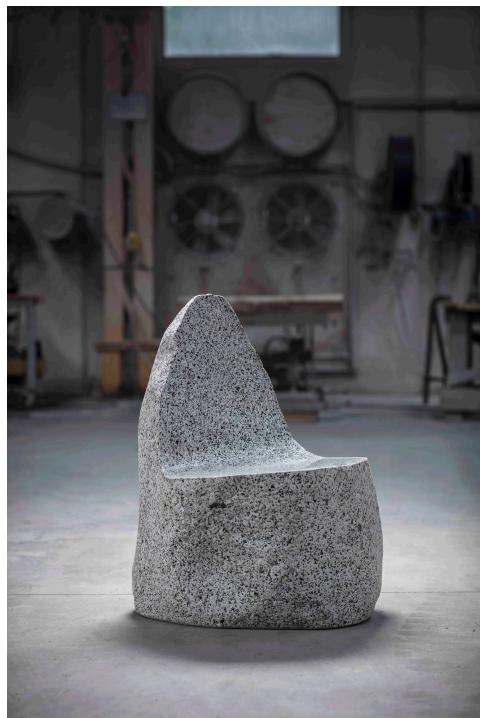
SALON 94  
DESIGN

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Who doesn't swoon over marble, bronze, and granite sculpture? Think Brancusi, Henry Moore, and Barbara Hepworth. Well, cutting-edge Brit designer Max Lamb has long taken to carving stone for his sculptural chairs and more. He's got another ace up his sleeve in his latest work, on display in "Boulders" at Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn's Salon 94 uptown gallery.

"This isn't the first time I've worked with stone, nor will it be the last," says Lamb, whose sophisticated clientele includes William Sofield, Stephanie Goto, and Ilse Crawford, to name a few. But what's on offer at Salon 94 is decidedly different from his prior work. "This project is the first time a quarry and stone yard have approached me to work with them," Lamb explains from his studio and home in a North London industrial building, which he shares with his wife, the jewelry designer Gemma Holt.

This Royal College of Art grad routinely spends months researching the geography and geology of stone quarries when it comes to sourcing material. Pedretti Graniti, a quarry based in Northern Italy, approached Lamb and offered both its services and scads of Tonalite granite, which is speckled black and white. Eleven chairs and nine stools owe a nod to Neolithic times.



One of Lamb's newest chairs.  
Photo: Andrea Sottana

"The demand for his work has been expanding exponentially," says Greenberg Rohatyn. Why, in this minimalist age when millennials favor streamlined design, and monochromatic palettes of ecru and dove-gray dominate? "Max's newest oeuvre reflects the monumentality of Stonehenge dating from some 5,000 years ago, but at the same time there is a domestic sensibility and scale," she says. The fact that Lamb's seating is perfectly proportioned for the human body makes them aptly suited for Tribeca lofts, Georgian country houses, and even Park Avenue penthouses.

The London Design Museum, the Miami Wolfsonian, and the Cooper Hewitt are just a few of the museums that hold his work, and next year the Art Institute of Chicago is honoring the designer with a solo exhibition dubbed "Exercises in Seating."

For those who can't make the trek to the Upper East Side gallery, there's an enticing alternative: Lamb designed the Madison Avenue, Milan, and San Francisco Acne boutiques.