

Gallery Scene: Grand New Spaces for Design and Art

EDWARD CELLA ART + ARCHITECTURE IN L.A.

Edward Cella Art + Architecture is known for its emphasis on the intersection of fine art, architecture, and design, a focus that has made it a destination gallery in Los Angeles. The interdisciplinary program boasts an exceptional collection of twentieth-century architectural ephemera and materials, including seminal pieces by such mid-century greats as Richard Neutra and Rudolf Schindler, while also offering contemporary fine art programming with a roster of emerging, mid-career, and established artists and designers. In May the gallery officially moved from Wilshire Boulevard to a new space in the heart of Culver City's art district at 2754 South La Cienega Boulevard.

In a city that continually reinvents itself, Cella has taken on an ambitious new space, much larger than his last, and has rebranded the gallery in collaboration with L.A.'s Group Effort, a design partnership between graphic designer Jessica Fleischmann of Still Room and architect Rachel Allen. The new location has been architecturally envisioned by Allen as a mutable and spatially flexible space, in keeping with the gallery's cross-disciplinary concept, and can readily accommodate large-scale, three-dimensional works of sculpture, furniture, and design. With a permanent desk designed by Alex Rasmussen of Neal Feay made entirely from gradient slabs of black anodized aluminum, the new space is simultaneously elegant, modern, and contemporary: distinctly Cella. The gallery's debut presentation, *Unbound*, featured contemporary painting, and was followed by *Homeland*, an exhibition of work by L.A.-based Pontus Willers that runs through July 3. edwardcella.com

—Marieke Treilhard



NILUFAR DEPOT IN MILAN

Milan's Nina Yashar has long been known for her exquisite taste and extraordinary eye. Her Brera district gallery, Nilufar, is a joy to visit, and an adventure, as it winds back from the narrow Via della Spiga with each small space yielding yet more treasures. It seemed hard to top, but Yashar did so herself.

Her newest venture, called Nilufar Depot, is a vast former warehouse adapted by the architect Massimiliano Locatelli of CLS Architetti into a three-story-high space open in the center but ringed by mezzanine gallery space. Yashar says the design was intended to pay homage to Milan's famed La Scala opera house. The 16,000-square-foot space on the much-less-central Viale Vincenzo Lancetti houses close to three thousand pieces of furniture, lighting, and decorative arts. The new Depot took its bow during Salone del Mobile in April.

The work on view ranges from the historic to the contemporary, work that Yashar has assembled and stored in the Depot for some three decades. On display in the roomlike vignettes that line the upper stories are works that show Nilufar's amazing range: Josef Hoffmann, Gio Ponti, Gino Sarfatti, Alessandro Mendini, Lindsey Adelman, Martino Gamper, Bethan Laura Wood, Maarten de Ceulaer, and Glithero. The ample ground floor features, among other pieces, several of the extraordinary (and heavy and long) tables designed by Locatelli; his serpentine connected tables, each in a different marble, were a centerpiece of Nilufar's Design Miami offering last June but look far more imposing in a space that truly shows them off. nilufar.com

—Beth Dunlop