

Museum Of Modern Art Presents First Major US Ron Arad Retrospective

NEW YORK CITY — The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) is presenting the first major US retrospective of Ron Arad's work in the exhibition "Ron Arad: No Discipline," on view August 2 to October 19.

Among the most influential designers of the present time, Arad (British, b Israel, 1951) stands out for his daredevil curiosity about form, structure, technology and materials and for the versatile nature of his work, which spans industrial design, handcrafted studio pieces, sculpture, architecture and mixed-media installations.

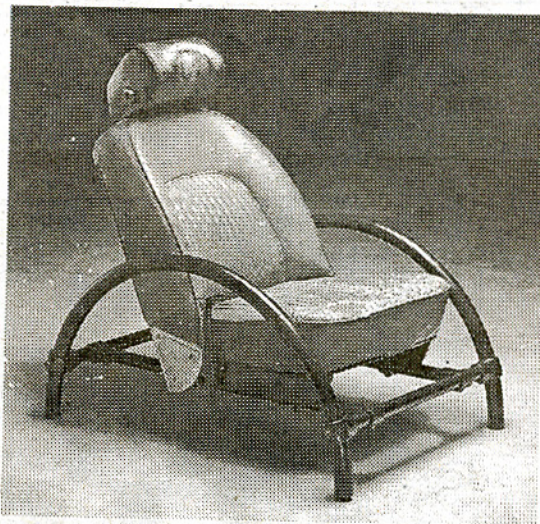
Arad's relentless experimentation with the use of materials of all kinds — from steel, aluminum and bronze to thermoplastics, crystals, fiber-optics and light-emitting diodes, as well as his radical reinterpretation of some of the most established archetypes in furniture — from armchairs and rocking chairs to desk lamps and chandeliers — has put him at the forefront of contemporary design.

The exhibition will feature approximately 140 works, including design objects, architectural models and videos. Most of the objects featured in

the exhibition will be displayed in a monumental structure specially designed by Arad and developed with Michael Castellana from Ron Arad Associates, and loaned to this exhibition.

"Cage sans Frontières (Cage without Borders)" is a Corten steel structure — 126½ feet long, spanning the whole length of the museum's International Council gallery, and more than 16 feet tall — in the shape of a figure eight. The structure consists of 240 cells that are each lined with stainless steel. The dramatic installation will rely on its scale and on the reflectivity of the inner walls of the cells to create a ricocheting effect that will be tamed and contained by the regular rhythm of the structure's geometry.

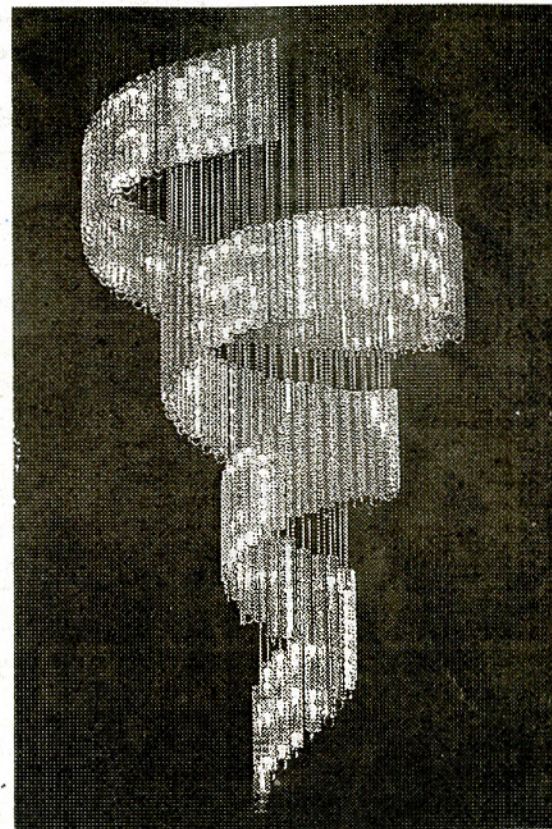
The exhibition celebrates Arad's spirit by combining industrial design, one-off pieces, architecture and architectural installation. Objects are grouped in families whose common thread is the exploration, sometimes over years, of a form, a material, a technique or a structural idea, such as the exploration of elasticity and surprise that began with the "Well Tem-



Ron Arad, "The Rover Chair," 1981, painted tubular steel and leather, 30¾ by 27¾ by 36¼ inches, edition by One Off, London. —Eric and Petra Hesmerg photo, courtesy of private collection, Maastricht

pered Chair," 1986 — a chair made of foursprung sheets of steel held together by wing nuts that come together to suggest the archetypal shape of an armchair. Another example is the "Volumes" series, 1988, which comprises, among others, his renowned "Big Easy," 1988, and its various iterations.

The exhibition will feature



Ron Arad, "Lolita," 2004, crystals and LEDs, 59 inches, top-plate diameter 43¾ inches, edition by Swarovski. —Photo courtesy Ron Arad Associates, London

Arad's most celebrated historical pieces, including the "Rover Chair," 1981, the "Concrete Stereo," 1983, and the "Bookworm" bookshelves, 1993, along with more recent experiments, such as the lamp "PizzaKobra," 2008, and the

latest reincarnation of the "Volumes" series, the armchair duo "Even the Odd Balls?" 2009.

The Museum of Modern Art is at 11 West 53rd Street. For information, 212-708-9400 or www.moma.org.