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about molo

Led by Stephanie Forsythe + Todd MacAllen, molo is a design and production studio based in Vancouver, Canada. Balancing between the realms of art, design and architecture, molo products and projects are grounded in space making and range in scale from tea set to museum.

The design of molo products stems from Forsythe + MacAllen's architectural exploration. They are inspired by the concept of smaller, tactile objects having true potency in the experience of a space. By working across a range of sizes, Forsythe + MacAllen discover how furniture can heighten the sense of human scale and experience in architecture, or how furniture and product design benefit from thinking in the larger context of place and space making.

Hands-on making has always been fundamental to Forsythe + MacAllen's design process. Ideas pass from mind to hands to material and back again, ingraining a tactile sense of materiality, construction, space and experience. This process has developed to include experimentation with factory production, in close collaborations with manufacturers. It is a way of working that leads to happy accidents and discoveries, inspiring design improvisation and original thinking.

molo's award-winning soft collection, comprised of flexible space partitions, lighting, seating and table elements exemplifies their exploration of production process and experiential space making. Recognized for poetic beauty and pragmatic innovation, softwall and softseating were acquired by the Museum of Modern Art for their permanent collection. molo and the soft concepts have also been honoured with the prestigious Danish INDEX award for design to improve life.

Forsythe + MacAllen began working together in 1994 at Architecture school. Constructing a number of houses and small-scale objects, Forsythe + MacAllen won several international competitions for design projects and conceptual ideas, including Grand Prize in the Aomori Northern Style Housing Competition, juried by Tadao Ando and Jean Nouvel. The Aomori submission would later evolve into the waterfront Nebuta House, a museum dedicated to its namesake festival. These early projects and ideas have become molo's foundations. Since its formation in 2003, molo has assembled a dedicated team and grown into a thriving collaborative design and production studio. Additionally, molo has an extended family of specialized manufactures, consultants and contractors that they work with in a beautiful endeavour to bring imagination to fruition.



softwall is a flexible partition that playfully shapes light, acoustics and space



the graceful movement and visual delicacy of the textile material is accentuated when lit by internal LED



cloud mobiles redefine space through gentle movement and soft luminosity



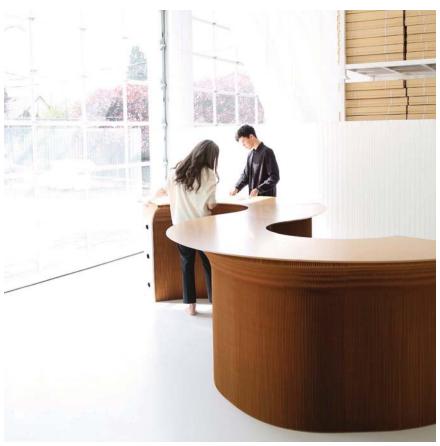
setting up softwall + softblock requires no tools; only a helping hand



the internal honeycomb geometry lends the paper furniture immense strength, allowing it to stretch lengthy distances and support surprising weight



shift and stack softblocks to create immersive, sculptural environments



cantilever table's wedge tops connect to form diverse arrangements—circular meeting tables, spiralling display surfaces or serpentine bars

















the soft collection's internal honeycomb absorbs sound to form spaces of calm and focus





softseating compresses like a book for storage, fanning open into stools or low tables. Alternatively, it connects magnetically to form long, winding benches.



with time and use, softseating's surface crushes into a pleasing, natural patina



a candle under float tea lantern keeps beverages warm and creates a cylinder of coloured, ambient light



northern sky circle \cdot an outdoor room made from ice and snow to celebrate the Alaskan winter



softhousing is intended to make the most of small, urban spaces for living and working, transforming them to suit diverse uses throughout a single day or a building's lifetime



with a facade as enigmatic as the deities that reside within, Nebuta House in Aomori, Japan, is a museum honouring and celebrating the cultural history of the Nebuta Festival