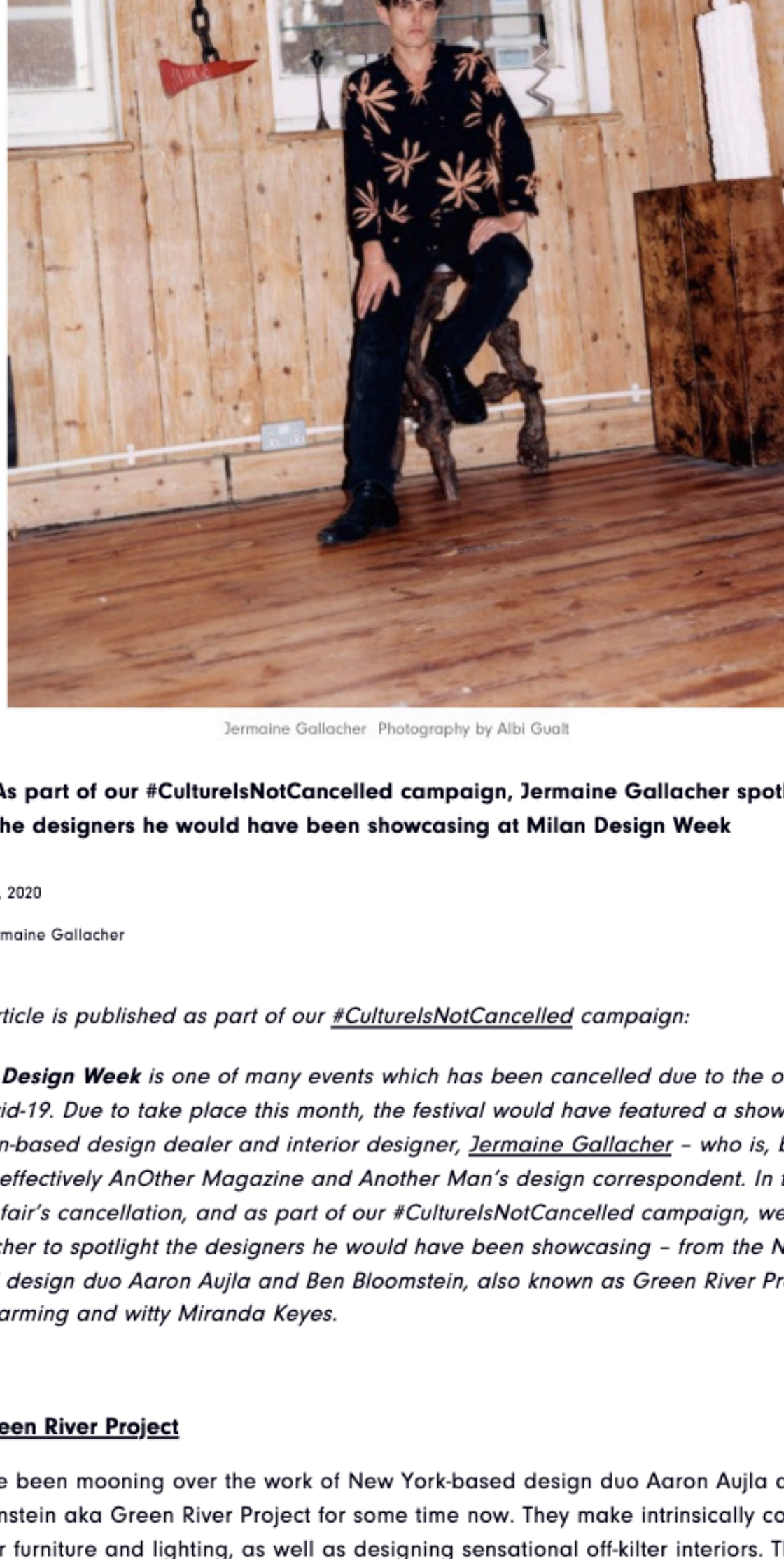


# Seven Designers Who Should Have Been Showing at Milan Design Week

DESIGN &amp; LIVING / CULTURE IS NOT CANCELLED



Jermaine Gallacher Photography by Albi Guall

As part of our #CulturesNotCancelled campaign, Jermaine Gallacher spotlights the designers he would have been showcasing at Milan Design Week

APRIL 09, 2020

TEXT Jermaine Gallacher

This article is published as part of our #CulturesNotCancelled campaign:

**Milan Design Week** is one of many events which has been cancelled due to the outbreak of Covid-19. Due to take place this month, the festival would have featured a showcase by London-based design dealer and interior designer, Jermaine Gallacher – who is, by this point, effectively *AnOther Magazine* and *Another Man's* design correspondent. In the wake of the fair's cancellation, and as part of our #CulturesNotCancelled campaign, we asked Gallacher to spotlight the designers he would have been showcasing – from the New York-based design duo Aaron Aujla and Ben Bloomstein, also known as *Green River Project*, to the charming and witty *Miranda Keyes*.

## 1. Green River Project

I have been mooning over the work of New York-based design duo Aaron Aujla and Ben Bloomstein aka *Green River Project* for some time now. They make intrinsically cool and clever furniture and lighting, as well as designing sensational off-kilter interiors. Their most recent projects include menswear brand *Bode's* New York flagship store and the new, yet-to-open *Dr Clark's* restaurant in Chinatown – both of which I will be checking out on my next trip to New York. These are two designers I am really excited to work with!



Green River Project Black Hyedua Chair Photography by Andrew Jacobs

## 2. Viola Lanari

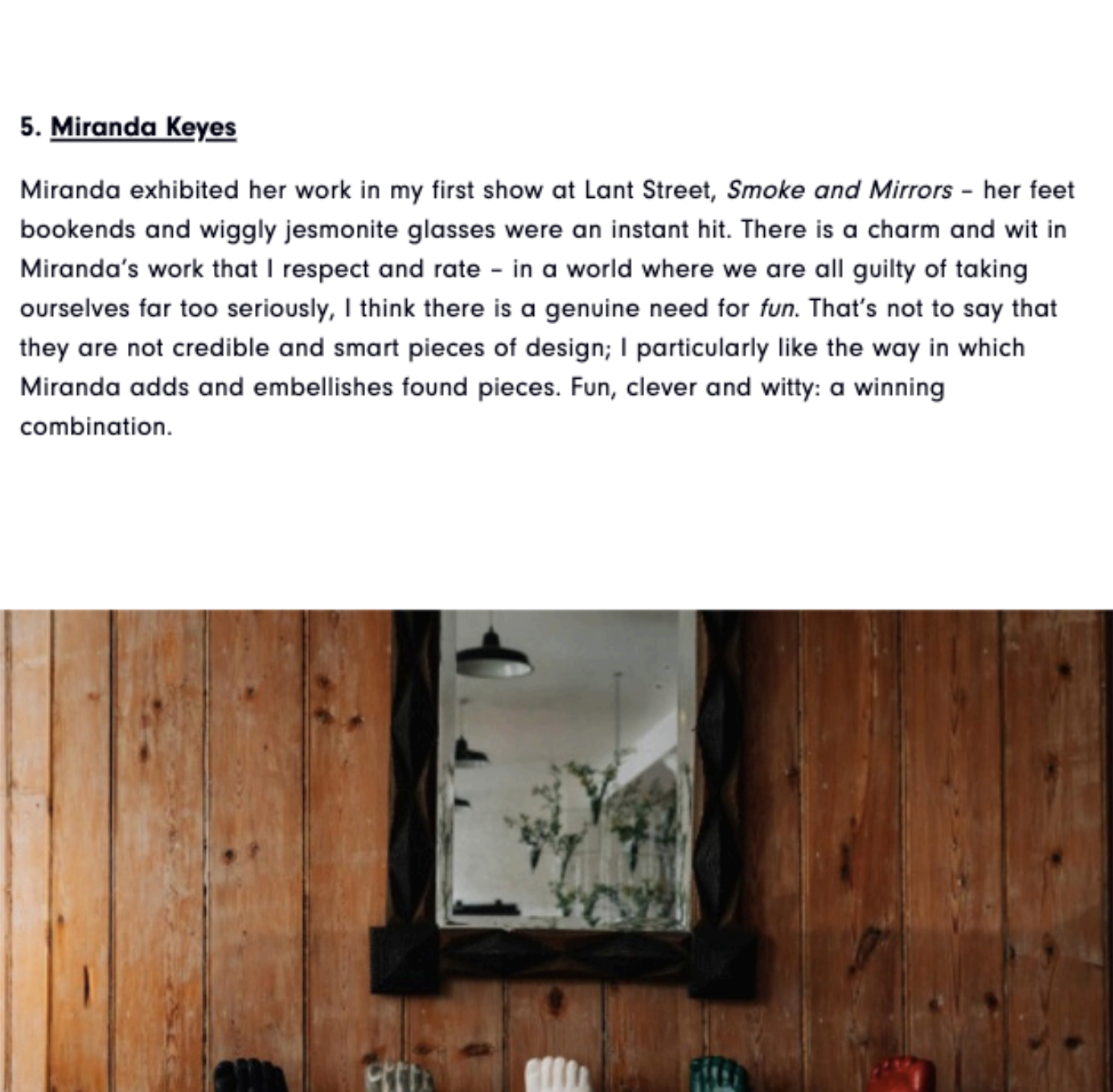
Viola and I have been friends and collaborators for some time now, and I am lucky enough to sell her designs at my *Lant Street* showroom. Viola makes one-of-a-kind lamps and tables – in fact she can turn her artistic hand to make you just about anything. Plaster is her favoured material; she describes her plaster creations as “beautiful monsters”. I however would describe them simply as “beautiful”.



Viola Lanari Porta Romana Selina Side Table

## 3. Lukas Gschwandtner

I once described Lukas's chairs as “balsy but elegant”. I think these two words still best depict his designs. Lukas first came to *Lant Street* with a prototype of his *Melange* chair a little over a year ago, since then he has exhibited at the *Royal Institute of British Architecture*, *The Peana Gallery* in Mexico City and had his first solo show at *Lant Street*. His love and understanding of material – in particular his leather work, which by the way is sexy as fuck – is best seen here in the *Pendal* chair, which is an already iconic piece of design.



Lukas Gschwandtner Pendal Chair in Leather and Canvas Photography by Norman Wilcox Geissen

## 4. F. Taylor Colantonio

I was introduced to Taylor through our mutual friend *Cicely Travers* – *Cicely* and I had a fun and slightly ridiculous little shop on *Porn Alley* in *Soho*, before it got bulldozed and turned into a hotel. Taylor is a true-until-the-end designer who uses different materials until he masters them. Most recently he has been working with *papier maché*, though I have to confess I have a soft spot for his brushstroke lanterns. I remember him making them at *Lant Street* while I was setting up for my first show – suddenly, out of nowhere, these extraordinary lamps were hanging from the ceiling ...



F. Taylor Colantonio Brushstroke Lanterns

## 5. Miranda Keyes

*Miranda* exhibited her work in my first show at *Lant Street*, *Smoke and Mirrors* – her feet bookends and wiggly jesmonite glasses were an instant hit. There is a charm and wit in *Miranda's* work that I respect and rate – in a world where we are all guilty of taking ourselves far too seriously, I think there is a genuine need for *fun*. That's not to say that they are not credible and smart pieces of design; I particularly like the way in which *Miranda* adds and embellishes found pieces. Fun, clever and witty: a winning combination.



Miranda Keyes Feet Bookends Photography by India Hobson

## 6. Ben Burgis and I

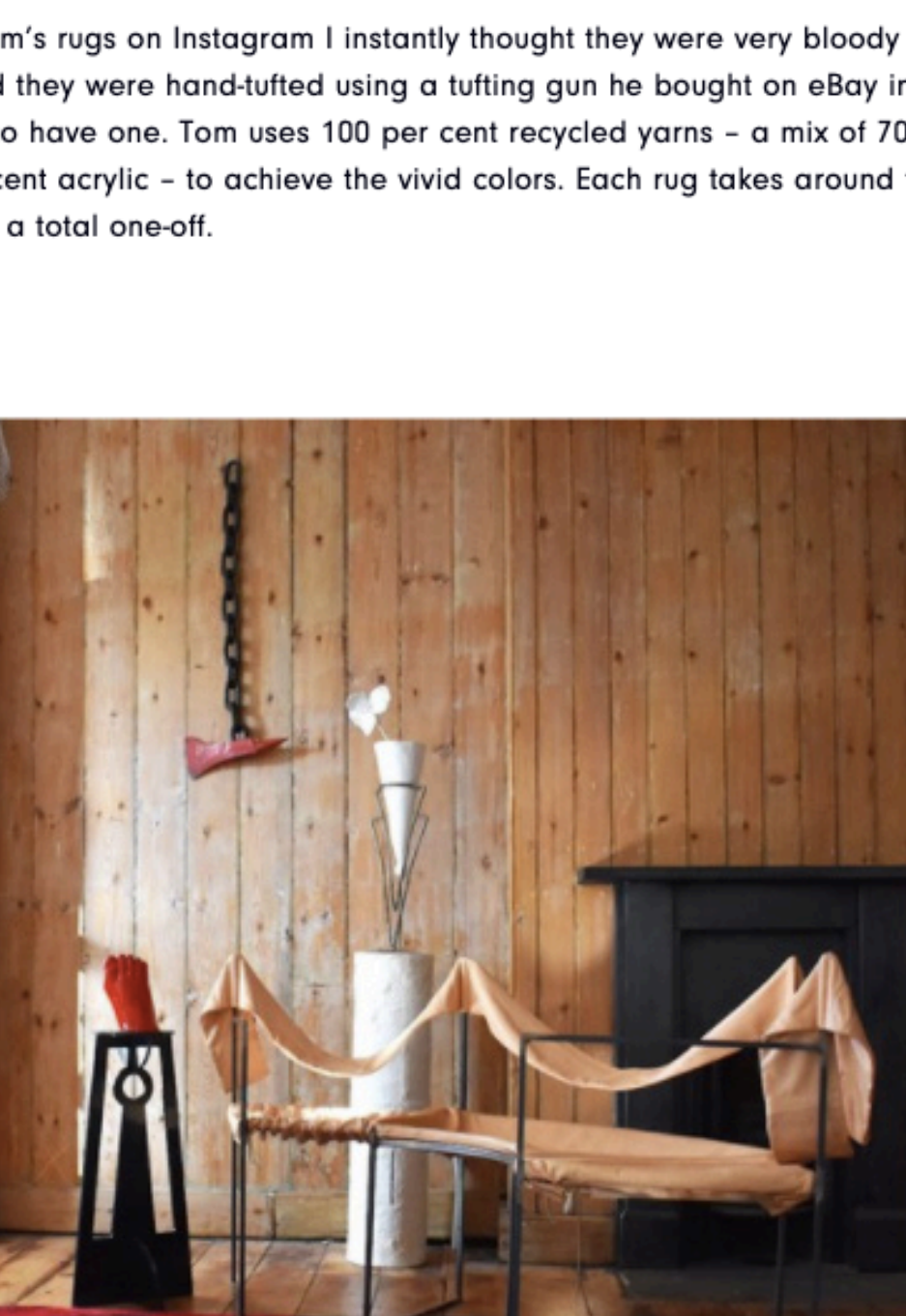
*Ben Burgis* is one of my oldest and greatest friends, he is a prolific painter and an equally prolific party boy – almost as prolific as me! We have made a few things together in the past, or rather I've drawn them up and *Ben* has put them together. *Ben* has a beautiful and instinctive way of working with metal; his work reminds me of *André Dubreuil*, who is a total design hero of mine. So when I had the idea to make some steel zigzag shelf brackets, it was *Ben* I asked to make them. They come in three sizes, are totally fun, give off the most fabulous shadows, and are actually practical ... Not a word associated with anything I ever design or sell.



Ben Burgis and Jermaine Gallacher Zigzag Shelf Bracket

## 7. Joe Armitage

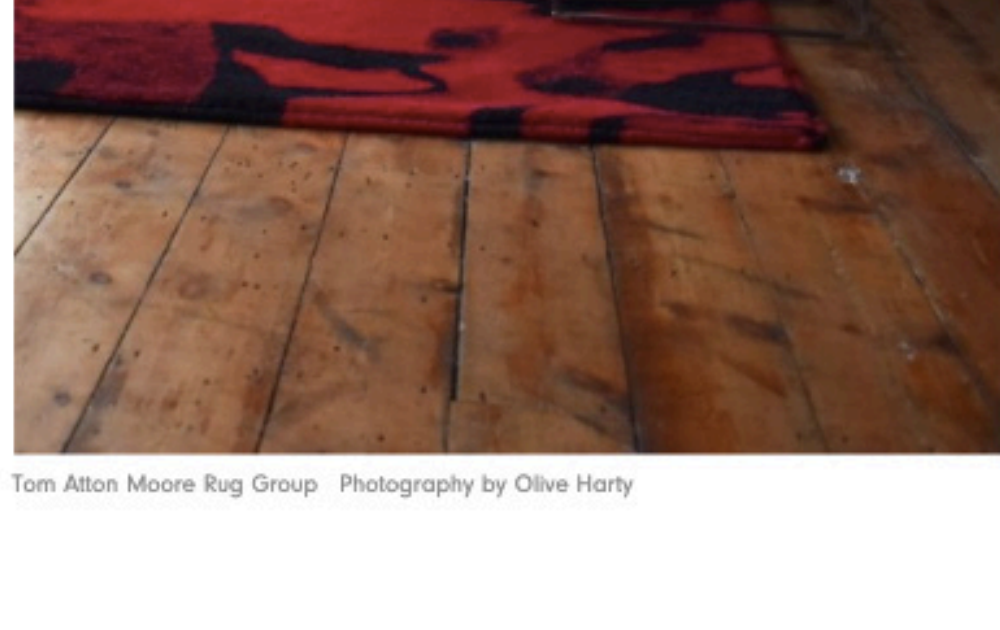
I remember seeing the *Armitage* lamp for the first time and thinking it was remarkably beautiful. I still do. Designed by *Joe's* grandfather, the architect *Edward Armitage*, in *India*, 1952, *Joe* has lovingly and meticulously bought his grandfather's design to the attention of the 21st century. I was lucky enough to have this lamp at my first store in *Waterloo* and can't wait to welcome it back to my *Lant Street* showroom.



The Armitage Lamp Photography by unknown

## Bonus: Tom Atton Moore

I first saw *Tom's* rugs on *Instagram* I instantly thought they were very bloody cool, when I later learned they were hand-tufted using a tufting gun he bought on *eBay* in his garden shed, I had to have one. *Tom* uses 100 per cent recycled yarns – a mix of 70 per cent wool and 30 per cent acrylic – to achieve the vivid colors. Each rug takes around three weeks to make and is a total one-off.



Tom Atton Moore Rug Group Photography by Olive Hartly