

Triangle

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# HOME

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# *Intentional* ART

TAPPING INTO THE PLAYFUL NATURE OF ART, TWO DESIGNERS CREATE A WORLD OF FUNCTIONAL BEAUTY.

WRITTEN BY KARIN SIMONEAU

The conviction that “everyone is an artist” is what propelled designer Abby Ross and her partner, architect and designer Courtney Evans, to form Artish Studio. In the studio, the duo creates products that are interactive, flexible, and built with modular pieces, allowing everyone to channel their own creativity.

The pair met when Evans fabricated and installed a custom steel feature in Ross’s home. They reconnected at a design party one evening and found themselves sharing ideas about sculptures and furniture they wanted to create. “That was the moment we decided to collaborate,” recalls Ross. “We know that change is inevitable—that moods, styles, and needs evolve—and we also know that people are inherently creative and dynamic.” It’s that change and desire for personal expression that drives the design and function of each object produced at Artish.

Their first product, Stones, allowed pieces to be fit together to create unique artwork every time. “This was our launch into the ‘furniture you can play with’ concept,” explains Ross. Next, they developed a series of eight steel wall art kits that were

Artish founders Courtney Evans (left) and Abby Ross relax on the Comb table. **BOTTOM:** Besties side tables, based on the best friends necklace concept, join at the base to form a perfect fit. The tops are made of brass and copper, and the stone base is crafted by local artisan Matt Byrd.



KATIE STEWART



The Stax modular bookshelves come in two colors and two shapes, allowing homeowners to mix and match pieces.



Ross sits next to the Wifi wall art from Artish.



Made of recycled aluminum, the MoNO double armchair and ottoman are indoor- and outdoor-friendly, and modeled after No. 14 bistro chairs.

reversible, interchangeable, and magnetic. Totem, Chill Pill, and Wifi have pieces that can be rearranged to create myriad looks. Over time, the designs became more functional while still maintaining a sculptural and playful quality. Stax bookshelves can be personalized with colors and configuration, while their sconces are customizable through different bulbs, cords, or even magnetic hooks and shelves.

The studio produces a new limited-edition collection every year, their latest being the MoNO Collection, featuring two chairs, an ottoman, a bench, and a mirror, all made of recycled aluminum.

Many products, in fact, are formed from recycled metals and built to last. “We want to create pieces people don’t get tired of and throw into a landfill,” says Ross. “We aim to create with sustainability in mind.”

Forever playing with materials, form, and color, Ross and Evans thrive on creating objects that are simultaneously accessible and cut through fast-paced design-trend cycles—always revisiting their philosophy of “form, function, *and* play.” ♦