

PRODUCT PARADE

## Some of the best new and noteworthy furniture from ICFF 2019

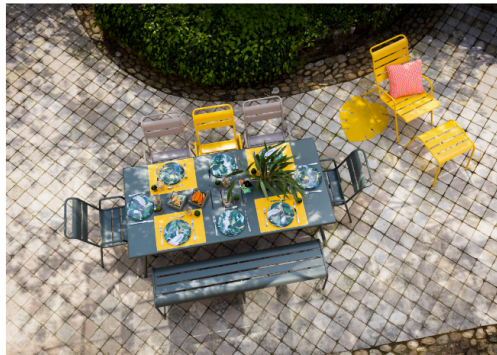
By GABRIELLE GOLEND A • June 3, 2019



Fermob's Monceau collection at ICFF 2019 (Gabrielle Golenda/AN Media)

From May 20 to 23, over 38,000 people flocked to the [International Contemporary Furniture Fair \(ICFF\)](#) to see the latest designs. Inside the glass walls of the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City, over 900 designers and manufacturers from around the world showcased the latest offerings in [furniture](#), lighting, kitchen and bath, textiles, wall coverings, and flooring. Here, we highlight the products that are new and noteworthy.

### Outdoor Furniture



Monceau Collection  
[Fermob](#)

Fermob introduced four new seating pieces into its colorful collection of park furniture. New additions include the xl armchair, the low armchair, xl bench, and rocking chair (our personal favorite).



(Courtesy NEA Studio)

Outdoor Lounger  
[NEA Studio](#)

Outfitted with a photovoltaic panel in the adjustable backrest, this wooden slatted park bench features integrated LEDs that illuminate from the inside. It is offered in mobile or stationary versions.

## Lighting

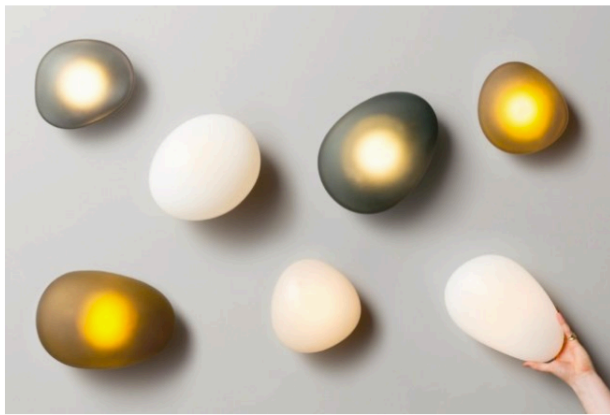


(Courtesy Cerno)

### **Penna Collection**

[Cerno](#)

To celebrate the lighting company's ten year anniversary, in-house designer Nick Sheridan designed the Penna collection to represent the aesthetic vocabulary of the brand. Fashioned in walnut, brass, and leather, the fixtures are representative of Cerno's bold use of solid wood, strap-work, and metal detailing.



(Courtesy ANDlight)

### **Pebble Series by Lukas Peet**

[ANDlight](#)

Canadian designer Lukas Peet envisioned a series of glass lights that emulate the tactile qualities of stone. Including a pendant and ceiling/wall fixture, the collection features translucent glass blown forms available in four naturalesque finishes: pearl, travertine, slate, and citrine.



(Courtesy Ross Gardam)

### **Hemera Desk Lamp**

[Ross Gardam](#)

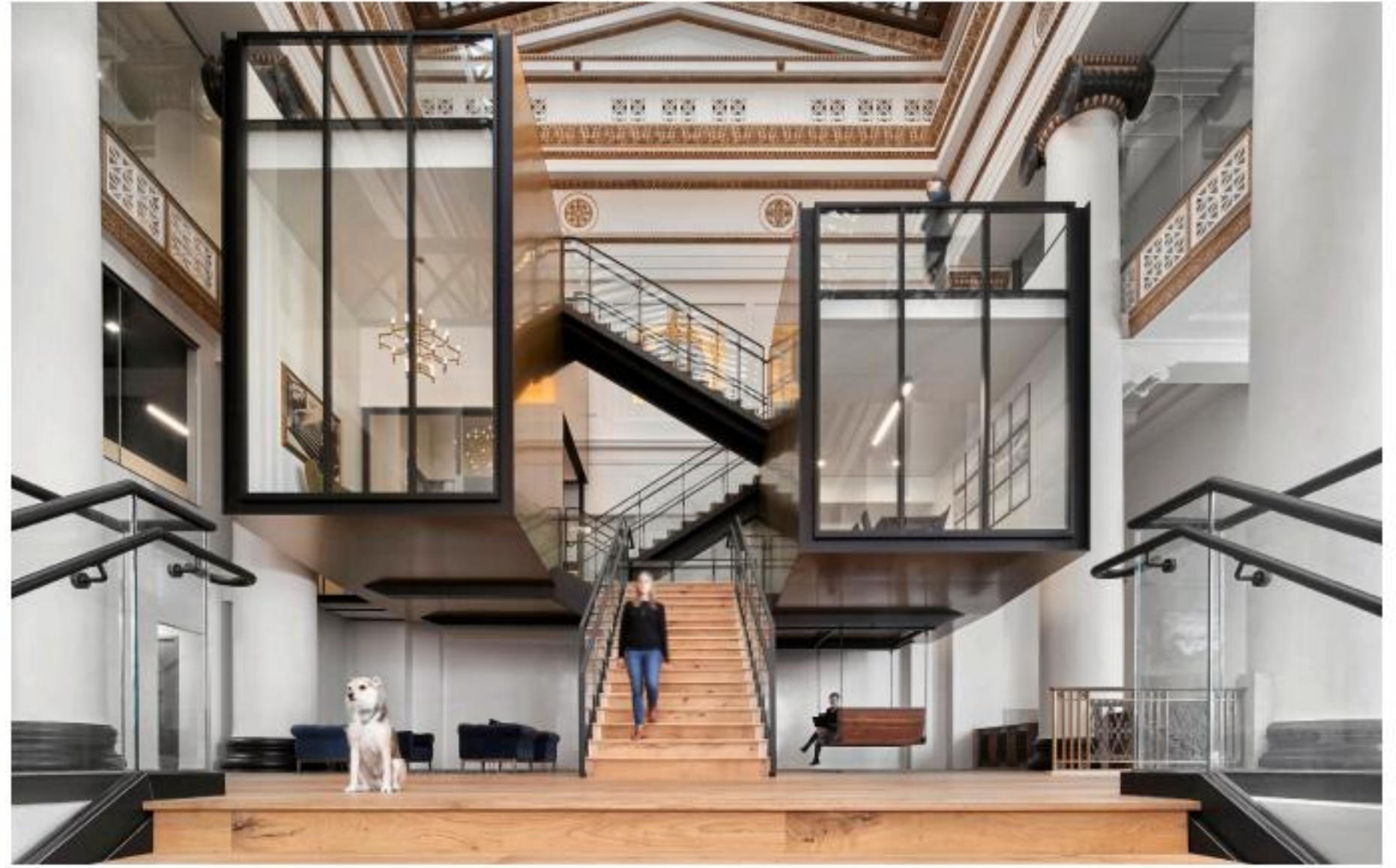
Melbourne-based designer Ross Gardam debuted the Hemera Desk Lamp at ICF to inaugurate the brand's U.S. presence and new platform to distribute lighting across the country. Inspired by brutalist architecture of the 1960s, the marble fixture comprises two intersecting cylindrical forms that appear to have no visible light source.



**The latest retrofitted offices are not just in former industrial spaces. Today's workplace can pop up in an old house, a church, or even a bank. And they aren't just offices anymore.**

# Work State





**ZGF Architects designs a “choose-your-own-adventure” office space for Expensify Portland.** By Sydney Franklin

# Banking on Flexible Design

Expensify is an expense management software company, so it's fitting that its newest office in Portland, Oregon, is set inside one of the city's historic bank buildings. Located on the corner of Southwest 5th Avenue and Stark Street, the 103-year-old First National Bank, or the “marble temple,” does not look like the home of an emerging tech enterprise. But the San Francisco-based brand has outfitted the four-story atrium and other spaces to respond to its need for flexibility without compromising the integrity of the structure.

Designed by ZGF Architects, the office reflects Expensify's self-described “choose-your-own-adventure” work setting. Employees have an array of seating options, from a 41-foot-long communal table to a plush swing set, a classy boardroom, and a speakeasy-style salon with leather booths by Restoration Hardware—all except for personal desks. This goal of creating a 100 percent agile workplace drove all design decisions both large and small, according to Alan Gerencer, principal of ZGF.

Expensify also wanted its office to be a place where employees could directly connect with each other and the national landmark building. Gerencer explained that the interior was completely shelled out when they began work. “It was bare concrete,” he said. “Our effort was to define this space and still respect what was existing.”

To do this, ZGF referenced both the obvious and minute details on the building's exterior as well as its Art Deco, skylit interior. For example, the firm imagined a set of floating conference rooms immediately visible from the bank's main entrance that resemble a tree house. Built with glass and blackened steel, the triad of windows on the boxy structures mirror the bank's expansive vertical windows. Angular chandeliers from Nemo Lighting, reminiscent of the opulent hanging lamps found in old banks,

gleam inside. Additionally, the oak flooring by Kährs and millwork used throughout the entire office pay homage to the patterns of oak leaves and acorns on the historic bank vault doors.

Even the oak wood-clad private booths on the third floor, designed for quiet work and conversation, feature a Scandinavian gabled roof design that's defined with the exact shape and proportions of the classical X-shaped balustrades and grilles nearby. All of these varied work areas allow employees to interact with the historic space on many different levels.

Because Expensify is leasing the office space, ZGF laid out the interior architecture to “gently touch” its historic core. “This whole structure could essentially be removed,” Gerencer said, “and no one would ever know Expensify was there.”

**Above left and right:** Wooden finishes and black metalwork bring a warm and sophisticated feeling to the office space. Lounge chairs add even more comfort, like the BuzziNordic that lines the edge of the stair.

**Right:** Portland-based company Mallet Bespoke Furniture created the communal table in the lobby. Imber pendants by Cerno hang above it, illuminating the wood and the mesh chairs from Source.

