88 QUEEN STREET WEST

THE .06 CHAIR BY MAARTEN VAN SEVEREN FOR VITRA, WITH FLEX-IBLE INTEGRATED FOAM SEAT, AVAILABLE AT QUASI MODO



1 MADE

867 DUNDAS ST W 416 607 6384 WWW.MADEDESIGN.CA

Dedicated to cutting edge work by young Canadian designers, Made's stock, carefully selected by owners/designers Julie Nicholson and Shaun Moore, includes the innovative and the unusual, such as Tamara Rushlow's chandelier with adjustable shade and Castor Canadensis's sauna-in-a-box (available to order). This season, look for local designer Thout's modular wall tile system, UtiliTILE, and a new sustainable lighting collection by Vancouver's Propellor that uses recycled electrical components and reclaimed wood.

2 ELLA + ELLIOT

188 STRACHAN AVE

416 850 7890 WWW.ELLAANDELLIOT.COM

It's Bauhaus for babies in this 3rd Uncle-designed blondwood space located just south of Queen. Ella + Elliot specializes in modern nursery furniture that's designed to evolve as your child grows. Stokke's Tripp Trapp high chair can be made into a regular seat, and David Netto's popular NettoCollection features change tables that convert into cabinets, and cribs that morph into junior beds. This fall, look for new pieces from Finland's Seimi Baby collection and innovative loungers and high chairs from Bloom, along with the Mod Rocker in moulded plywood by Iglooplay. TUE & WED 11-6, THU & FRI 11-7, SAT 10-6, SUN 12-5

3 FLUF

881 QUEEN ST W

416 362 3583 WWW.FLUF-DESIGN.COM

Fluf co-owners and designers Nathalie Butterfield and Terra Kushner may just have the cushiest jobs in town, if you'll pardon the pun. They create hundreds of styles of handmade cushions in such fabrics as cotton, French linen, silk and woven wool, as well as vintage hemp flour sacks from France and prints from Africa. According to Kushner, there are endless possibilities when it comes to designing pillows. This fall, watch for new woven ottomans and beanbags made from African raffia and cotton.

TUE-SAT 11-6, SUN 12-5

After more than 40 years of dutiful service, Nathan Phillips Square is finally booked for a much-needed facelift. The competition-winning design, by Plant Architect and Shore Tilbe Irwin and Partners, takes Inspiration from the original plaza, designed by architect Viljo Revell in 1958. According to Chris Pommer of Plant, "We wanted the new square to embody the same optimistic spirit and exploration of democracy that the original design did," A crucial part of that involves reanimating the square to encourage more public congregation – a concept that's based on the Greek agora, or place of assembly.

The second major element is the creation of an urban forest that will ring the agora, accentuating the square's openness. To encourage foot traffic, the architects have come up with user-friendly kiosks, information booths and a permanent stage for outdoor concerts. A new skate pavilion is also in the plan, to service the beloved outdoor rink, which will remain untouched.

Along the upper podium nearest to city hall – an area that's been a virtual dead zone since the building opened – the new design includes a cafe, garden and plenty of seating for visitors to take in the views from above. Construction is scheduled to begin next fall, with completion aimed for 2010.

BY NANCY WON

