

The T List: Six Things We Recommend This Week

Home décor from Dolce & Gabbana, a Brutalist eatery — and more.



Sept. 2, 2021

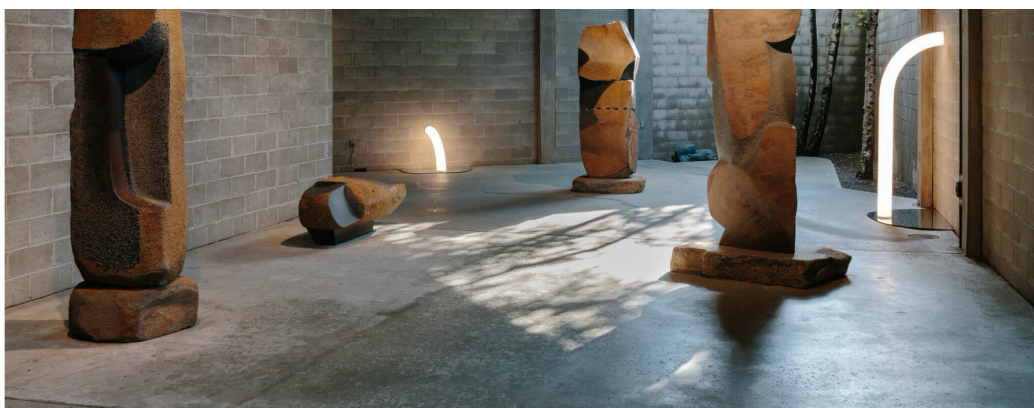
Cooking Feast on recipes, food writing and culinary inspiration from Sam Sifton and NYT Cooking. [Get it sent to your inbox.](#)

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SEE THIS

Noguchi's Greek Inheritance





Objects of Common Interest's "Tube Light I" (2019) at left and "Tube Light II" (2019) at right, installed among Isamu Noguchi's basalt and manazaru stone sculptures. Photo: Brian W. Ferry. Artworks © Objects of Common Interest and © The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum/Artists Rights Society.

By Kurt Soller

Two or so years ago, when the 39-year-old designers and architects Eleni Petaloti and Leonidas Trampoukis of the cerebral design studio [Objects of Common Interest](#) learned of the 20th-century Japanese American artist Isamu Noguchi's connection to their native Greece — he once described it as his “intellectual home” — they were immediately inspired. The couple, who split their time between New York City and Athens, began researching the digital archives of the Noguchi Museum in Long Island City, Queens, to create [an online feature](#) and a forthcoming set of books on Noguchi's Greek influences. Now this aesthetic fascination has been brought to life with “Hard, Soft and All Lit Up With Nowhere to Go,” a new exhibit organized by the Noguchi Museum's senior curator Dakin Hart, opening on September 15. By blending OoCI's playful objects (tubular lights and chairs, arcing cobalt formations, massive transparent inflatable sculptures that wobble in the wind) with Noguchi's own pieces, the show creates deep connections — between eras, places and creatives; between the increasingly blurry fields of art, design and architecture — that speak above all to the power of constant cultural exchange. “Between Noguchi and ourselves, we're both examining concepts like light, weight and volume,” Petaloti says, “but we're answering in different ways.” noguchi.org.